

**HISTORY OF
SOUTH DAKOTA WING
CIVIL AIR PATROL**
Official Auxiliary of the United States Air Force



1 January 2014 – 31 December 2014

NARRATIVE

HISTORY *of* **SOUTH DAKOTA WING** **CIVIL AIR PATROL**

Official Auxiliary of the United States Air Force

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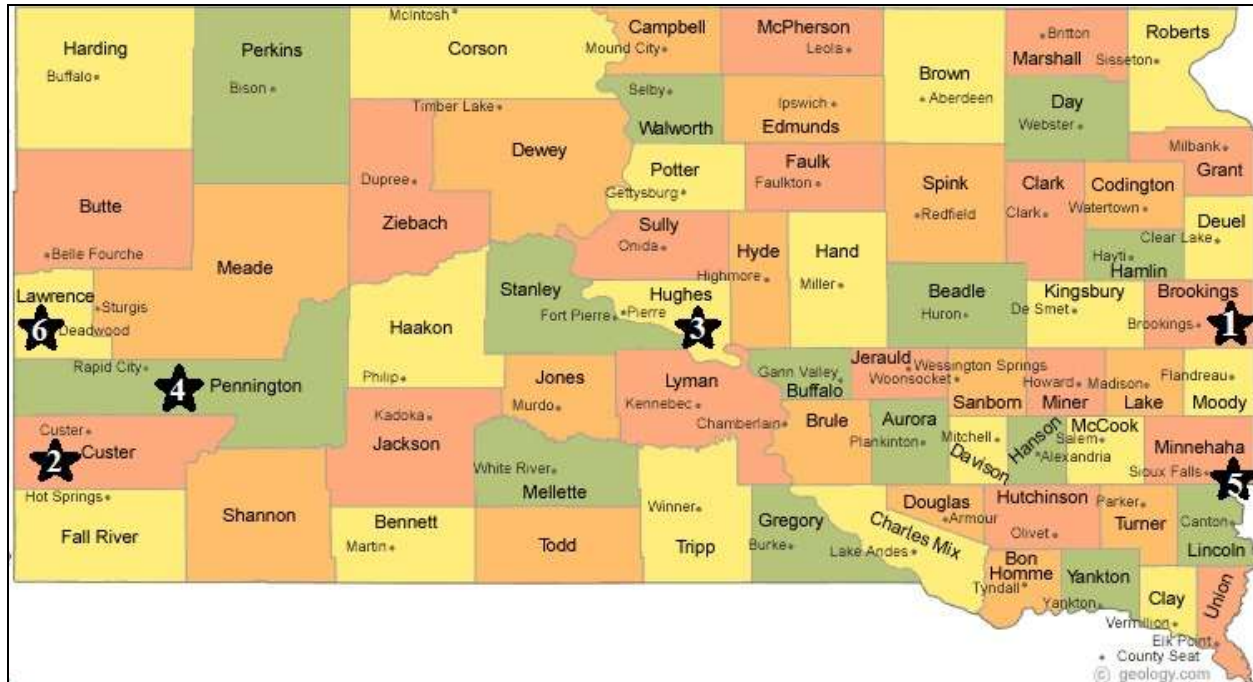
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Rapid City Regional Airport
South Dakota

FRONTISPIECE



South Dakota Wing

Wing Headquarters – Rapid City (Pennington County)

Squadron Locations

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Brookings | Big Sioux Composite Squadron |
| 2. Custer | Crazy Horse Composite Squadron |
| 3. Pierre | Pierre Composite Squadron |
| 4. Rapid City | Rushmore Composite Squadron |
| 5. Sioux Falls | Sioux Falls Composite Squadron |
| 6. Spearfish | Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron |

Figure 1. Location of South Dakota Wing Units

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SOUTH DAKOTA WING CHRONOLOGY 2014

January

06-07 Mission #14-C-4130 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
11 Wing Split SAREX – Sioux Falls/Rapid City
15 Mission #14-C-4130 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
18 Mission #14-C-4130 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
22 Wing Safety Day
29 Mission #14-C-4130 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
31 Mission #14-C-4130 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills

February

05 Brief SD Air Nat'l Guard on CAP 2013 Low-Level Route Surveys
11-12 Mission #14-C-4526 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
20 Governor's Declaration of Civil Air Patrol Day in South Dakota
20 Wing Legislative Day at State Capitol
25-26 Mission #14-C-4526 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills

March

04 New Commander – Big Sioux Composite Squadron
10 AFRCC Mission #14-M-0096A – Missing Person
10 Mission #14-C-4967 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
12 Mission #14-C-4967 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
22-23 Garmin G-1000 Training Clinic (Rapid City)
25 Mission #14-C-4967 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills

April

03 New Commander – Crazy Horse Composite Squadron
04 AFRCC Mission #14-M-0145 – ELT
10-11 Mission #14-C-5454 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
18 Mission #14-C-5454 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
20 AFRCC Mission #14-M-0166 – ELT
21 Mission #14-C-5454 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
21-26 Biennial Operational Evaluation held at Sioux Falls
22 Mission #14-1-5487 – Low Level Route Survey for SD Air Nat'l Guard
24 Mission #14-1-5487 – Low Level Route Survey for SD Air Nat'l Guard
26 South Dakota Wing Annual Conference
28 AFRCC Mission #14-M-0177 – Missing Aircraft

May

05 Mission #14-C-5759 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
09 Mission #14-C-5759 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
14 Mission #14-C-5759 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
19-20 Mission #14-C-5759 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
27 Mission #14-C-5759 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
28 Mission #14-1-6074– Tornado Damage Survey in Silver City

30 President signs CAP CGM bill

June

05 Mission #14-C-6209 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
05-12 Aircraft support to NCSA Flight Academy, Mattoon, IL
10 Mission #14-C-6209 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
12-19 Support to NCSA Flight Academy, Mattoon, IL
19 Mission #14-1-6419 – Aerial survey of flooding on Big Sioux River
19 Mission #14-1-6428– Wessington Springs tornado damage survey
21 Wing Split SAREX – Sioux Falls/Rapid City
21 Mission #14-M-0295A– Missing Person
23 Mission #14-C-6209 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
23 Wing personnel support to Red Cross shelter in Wessington Springs
27 New Commander – Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron

July

02-03 Mission #14-C-6610 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
08-09 Mission #14-C-6610 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
12 Mission #14-1-6809 – Low Level Route Survey for SD Air Nat'l Guard
15-16 Mission #14-C-6610 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
16 Mission #14-1-6809 – Low Level Route Survey for SD Air Nat'l Guard
16-17 Mission #14-1-6835 - Falcon Keynote – for SD Air Nat'l Guard
22-23 Mission #14-C-6610 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
23-24 Mission #14-1-6809 – Low Level Route Survey for SD Air Nat'l Guard
28-29 Mission #14-C-6610 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills

August

04 Mission #14-C-7129 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
07-09 Wing Aerospace Education weekend in Pierre
08 Wing opens CAP exhibit at SD Air National Guard Museum
11 Mission #14-1-6809A – Low Level Route Survey for SDANG
12 Mission #14-C-7129 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
14 Mission #14-C-7129 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
14-16 CAP National Convention – SD Wing wins NCR SAR Missions Award
16 Mission #14-1-6809A – Low Level Route Survey for SDANG
19 Mission #14-1-6809A – Low Level Route Survey for SDANG
22-23 Wing SAREX – Rapid City/Sioux Falls
25 Mission #14-C-7129 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
26 Mission #14-1-6809A – Low Level Route Survey for SDANG
27 Mission #14-C-7129 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
29 Mission #14-1-6809A – Low Level Route Survey for SDANG

September

01 Wing Glider Day at Hot Springs
03 Mission #14-C-7604 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
08 Mission #14-C-7604 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
11 Wing aircraft flies 9/11 tribute

12	Mission #14-C-7604 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
14	Mission #14-1-7655 – Low Level Route Survey for SDANG
16	Mission #14-C-7604 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
17	Wing C-172 sent for conversion from Skyhawk to Glasshawk
20-21	North Central Region Conference
23	Mission #14-1-7685 Support to Air Force Magazine at Ellsworth AFB

October

01	Mission #15-C-3240 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
07-08	Mission #15-C-3240 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
09	AFRCC Mission #14-M-0517 – ELT/EPIRB Search
11	Wing Split SAREX in Sioux Falls/Spearfish
14	Mission #15-C-3240 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
18	Joint Dakotas SLS/CLC Course held in Custer, SD
19-24	Mission #15-1-3517 Interagency Wind Turbine Radar Interference Study
22	Mission #15-C-3240 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
29	Mission #15-C-3240 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills

November

04	Mission #15-C-3596 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
06	Mission #15-C-3596 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
13	Mission #15-C-3596 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
20-21	Mission #15-C-3596 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
23-23	Joint Dakotas NCR Aerospace Education Weekend
30	AFRCC Mission #14-M-0606 – Missing Aircraft

December

03	Mission #15-C-4710 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
05	Mission #15-C-4710 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
10	Mission #15-C-4710 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
10	CGM Awarded to WWII-era CAP members – 4 in South Dakota
19	Mission #15-C-4710 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
30	Mission #15-C-4710 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills
31	Mission #15-C-4710 Aerial Wildlife Survey – Black Hills

NARRATIVE

CHAPTER I – INTRODUCTION

The South Dakota Wing completed its 73rd year of service to the people of the State of South Dakota and to the United States of America.

South Dakota Wing Origin

The South Dakota Wing was established 1 December 1941 as “Wing 77” and placed under the Command of Lt. Col. Thomas B. Roberts, Jr. On 30 May 1955, Wing 77 was re-designated “Wing 40000”. In 1999, Wing 40000 was again re-designated as “SD001” the designation it bears today.¹ The wing is currently commanded by Col John N. Seten.

Wing Organization

The South Dakota Wing is organized into a Wing Headquarters located at Rapid City Municipal Airport, Rapid City, SD and, currently, six subordinate units. The units are composite squadrons consisting of approximately 300 Cadets and Senior Members.

Wing Status

The South Dakota Wing completed 2014 on a high note. It was an especially active year for the wing in providing emergency services responses to AFRCC-tasked missions (missing aircraft, missing persons and ELT searches), and county, state and federal tasking for disaster relief (flooding, tornadoes). Wing aviation assets took part in research for a joint Department of Defense/Department of Homeland Security project, supported the state’s Air National Guard in surveying military air routes, and acted as a target for airborne intercept.

Aerospace Education had a substantial role in wing activity for 2014 featuring model rocketry, powered model aircraft and model gliders. In addition, there was an opportunity to inspect a FLIR-equipped CAP aircraft, visits to military museums, and a number of home grown AE activities.

The wing’s Cadet Programs for 2014 were equally active with an encampment, leadership academies, competitions, participation in National Cadet Special Activities and regional academies and a lot of just plain fun activities.

2014 was also a year of community activity. Wing units supported and/or took part in numerous community events across the state. Color Guards were especially active in that respect. A great deal of support was provided to aviation related events, especially fly-ins. Greatly enhanced community awareness and public goodwill was generated by the wing’s appearance at and participation in these activities.

¹ Unpublished Monograph “The Birth and Growth of South Dakota Wing of the Civil Air Patrol” by Col. Lester W. Snyder, Jr., CAP. Revised, 1 January 2010. Electronic file held by the Wing Assistant Historian.

CHAPTER II – EMERGENCY SERVICES

JANUARY 2014

- SDWG held a Safety Day on 22 January. By regulation an annual Safety Day is to be held in all active units sometime during the months of January, February or March to focus on improving safety knowledge and attitudes. This required day is focused entirely on safety subjects applicable to the unit. Safety Day education to meet this requirement may take place at a regularly scheduled unit meeting providing the academic content is devoted to safety.

- Despite the arctic blast on 23 January, Col Seten and Lt Col Larson travelled to Pierre on a variety of liaison missions. They attended the quarterly meeting of the Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD), a coalition of the major national voluntary organizations in the U.S. that have made disaster-related work a priority. During the meeting, they briefed the VOAD on CAP missions and capabilities. Following the VOAD meeting, they met with Adjutant General Major General Tim Reisch to discuss recent CAP state missions and future CAP capabilities. While there, they also met with Assistant Director Steve Harding and members of the National Guard budget staff. The last stop of the day was a meeting with newly appointed State Director of Homeland Security Mr. Steve Pluta. He was briefed on CAP "Homeland Skies" capabilities and presented with a new initiative to support advanced capabilities.

MARCH 2014

- **REDCAP:** AFRCC Mission #14-M-0096A – Missing Person. Late in the afternoon of 10 March, the South Dakota Wing was placed on alert by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Tyndall AFB, Florida. The mission request, initiated by the Lawrence County Office of Emergency Management and the City of Spearfish Police Department, was to search for a person reported as missing in the Lookout Mountain area near Spearfish. Col Mike Beason was the Incident Commander. A SDWG Cessna-182T took off from Spearfish Municipal Airport about 6:45pm piloted by Lt Col Rodney DeWeese with Capt Bill Collister as observer. The search area encompassed Spearfish and from I-90 Exit 12 to Lookout Mountain. The aircraft flew for about 1.3 hours before darkness fell. The mission was suspended on 11 March due to severe weather in the search area. The mission resumed on 12 March with the City of Spearfish Police Department taking the lead supported by the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron who fielded a ground team to search the west side of Lookout Mountain. In addition, the Cessna-182T searched the Spearfish area from the air for an additional 1.5 hours. Lt Col DeWeese was again the Mission Pilot with Lt Col Jim Hopewell and Capt Gary Schroeder as Mission Observers.

- Garmin G1000 Training Clinic in Rapid City. SDWG is fortunate to have two Cessna-182 aircraft, both with Garmin's leading-edge G1000 avionics packages. Aircrew familiarity with the operation of these systems is essential for use at their full potential and to ensure standards of safety and pilot proficiency continue to be met at the highest levels.

Over the weekend of 22-23 March, members of five squadrons of South Dakota Wing attended a CAP-sponsored G1000 training clinic in Rapid City. At this event, 20 members spent 12 hours working with the G1000 in classroom and hands-on settings. CAP instructors taught the basics of G1000 operation, and flight operations for both VFR and IFR flight conditions. Instructor pilot candidates and current instructor pilots attended an instructor pilot module, while pilots not seeking instructor status entered the cockpit and operated G1000 consoles in the aircraft, with auxiliary power being provided to ensure the aircraft would remain mission-capable.



Figure 2 - Instrument panel of Garmin G1000 equipped C-182

CAP members shared their knowledge in an interactive classroom environment, which included use of Garmin's G1000 simulator to conduct IFR procedures. Classroom instructors were 2nd Lt Jeremy Swier, Maj Craig Goodrich, Capt Joe Oye, Lt Col Greg Lair, and Capt Scott Giles. Although Lt Col Gary Hewett didn't do any platform instruction, he monitored the new G1000 instructors, and added commentary based on his extensive experience in the glass cockpit. He reminded participants of the importance having a backup plan when all the electronics fail. Col Mike Beason capably assisted Lt Col Hewett with the hands-on portion of the training, which included a North Dakota Wing aircraft flown in by the CAP-USAF Liaison Region Assistant Director of Operations, Mr. Greg Maier. The closing question-and-answer session was informative and lively, focusing on instrument approach "gotchas" and the coordination of air traffic control between the towers and approach control serving Rapid City Regional Airport and Ellsworth Air Force Base.

Our pilots and instructors have gained new knowledge, refreshed their skills, and gained an understanding of how CAP expects the G1000 to be utilized for maximum mission performance. The Wing is providing a limited number of flights for members who attended, with an emphasis

on current instructor currency, instructor candidate development and certification, and mission and transport pilot currency and development.

Major Goodrich, the Project Officer for the event said, “I think we all learned a lot, and we all had a good time. It was great to have so many pilots at this training. Building relationships with our CAP flying buddies and interactive discussion while learning made this into a fantastic weekend.”



Figure 3 - G1000 Classroom in Rapid City

APRIL 2014

- **Biennial Operational Evaluation:** The South Dakota Wing took part in a weeklong graded mission readiness exercise from 21-26 April. Every two years a U.S. Air Force inspection team evaluates the Wing's effectiveness in responding to a variety of potential real-world incidents. Typical scenarios include searches for missing/crashed aircraft, missing persons, floods, and humanitarian aid. The evaluation culminated Saturday, 26 April, with a major exercise at the Sioux Falls Regional Airport / Joe Foss Field. Specially equipped Civil Air Patrol aircraft, vehicles and approximately 80 command staff, ground support and aircrew members gathered from across the state.

The Mission Base at the airport executed a broad spectrum of operations in response to training incidents submitted by the USAF Evaluation Team. Maj Bruce Kipp, Wing Public Affairs Officer commented, “We train continuously in order to prepare for these real-world missions that affect peoples’ lives and impact the health and welfare of our communities. We are ready to respond in the event of an actual incident.”

The Wing received a rating of “Highly Successful” from the Air Force for its performance during its operations evaluation. Several staff sections received the coveted rating of “Excellent”. In addition, there was not a single “Finding”, an area which requires corrective action. Wing Commander, Col John Seten, and Wing Vice Commander Lt Col Rick Larson, who was also the Incident Commander, praised the professionalism of the members, their ability to work together as a team, and their determination to see a mission through to its successful conclusion. Col Seten added “The rating of highly successful is a true testament to the hard work of our top notch, dedicated professional volunteers.”



Figure-4 - Briefing room during Biennial Operational Evaluation

- **REDCAP:** AFRCC Mission #14-M-0145 – ELT. In the early afternoon of 4 April, South Dakota Wing was placed on alert by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Tyndall AFB, Florida. The mission was to search for an Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) beacon reported active in the vicinity of Mitchell by several aircraft passing overhead. In addition, a USAF tanker aircraft was able to obtain a rough triangulation of the signal as well. CAP Incident Commander Lt Col Rick Larson notified Sioux Falls Composite Squadron to start preparations to launch two aircraft and form a ground team to search for the ELT. However, prior to the aircraft taking off and ground team deploying, Lt Col Larson, using Google Earth was able to pinpoint the ELT in the vicinity of Letcher, about 20 miles northwest of Mitchell. It was determined that the signal was emanating from a crop-duster aircraft undergoing maintenance and the ELT was silenced. The mission was initially closed around 1445 local time. However, additional reports were received that ELT signals continued active, this time in an area south of Yankton. Two aircraft from the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron tracked the ELT signals to Hartington, Nebraska. One aircraft landed at Hartington Municipal Airport/Bud Becker Field where it was discovered that an individual working on his personal ELTs was unaware they had been triggered. These ELTs were silenced and the aircraft returned to base. The Cessna-172 was piloted by Capt Matt Meert with Capt Lauren Greenhoff as Mission Observer. The other aircraft, a Cessna-182, was piloted by Capt Joe Oye with Capt Jerry Gabert as Mission Observer and Capt Karla West as Mission Scanner. In addition to the two aircraft, two ground search teams were dispatched from Sioux Falls Composite Squadron. However the ELTs were located shortly after the ground search teams departed so the teams were recalled to base. In all some 18 SDWG personnel were involved.

- **REDCAP:** AFRCC Mission #14-M-0166 – ELT. At 9:05pm on 19 April, the South Dakota Wing was placed on alert by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Tyndall AFB, Florida. The mission was to search for an Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) beacon that had been reported as active in the vicinity of Sioux Falls Regional Airport by aircraft passing overhead. The CAP Incident Commander, Maj Craig Goodrich, of the Rushmore Composite Squadron in Rapid City, notified the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron to ready aircrews and a ground search team to search for the ELT using radio direction finding equipment. A Sioux Falls

based CAP Cessna-182T piloted by Maj Justin Johnson with Capt Matt Meert as Mission Observer and direction finding equipment operator, and Lt Jerald Hayden as Mission Scanner took off at Midnight and flew a route over a large portion of eastern South Dakota searching for the signal. The Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings was notified to prepare a ground search team and activate additional aircrews if needed. At approximately 2:30am the CAP aircraft pinpointed the ELT at a private airstrip southwest of Huron. The Incident Commander called the owner of the airstrip who went out and turned off the beacon. As a precaution, the CAP aircraft continued to circle overhead until its equipment confirmed that the ELT had been silenced. The aircraft then returned to base, the mission had been successfully completed.

MAY 2014

- Tornado Damage Survey, Mission #14-1-6074. The Pennington County Office of Emergency Management requested SDWG conduct a time-sensitive mission to photograph the damage in the wake of the tornado that touched down in the Silver City area of the Black Hills on 27 May. The severe storm system in the Black Hills also produced hail up to the size of golf balls near Keystone, Hill City, Pactola Reservoir and Sheridan Lake. The mission objective was to provide geo-tagged photographs of the extent of the tornado's damage path.

Responding to the mission request, a SDWG Cessna-182T took off from the Rapid City Regional Airport with Maj Craig Goodrich and Lt Col Gary Hewett; both highly experienced Mission Pilots, on board. Their survey mission lasted about 1.5 hours, during which they took nearly 100 high resolution geo-tagged photos that were hand delivered to the Pennington EOM.



Figure-5 - Tornado near Silver City, SD on 27 May

JUNE 2014

- Big Sioux Flooding Survey, Mission #14-1-6419. A week of severe weather during the middle of the month produced torrential rain that resulted in wide-spread flooding in the East River area. The state Office of Emergency Management requested the Civil Air Patrol's South Dakota Wing conduct an aerial photographic survey on 19 June along the Big Sioux River from Sioux Falls to where it meets the Missouri River. Later in the day the Federal Emergency

Management Agency (FEMA) requested that the photos of the flooding be sent to them. What began as state tasking changed into a federal disaster relief mission. A Cessna-182T from the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron was assigned the mission. The aircraft departed Sioux Falls Regional Airport at approximately 9:00am for the 2 hour sortie. Capt Neil Schmid served as the SDWG Incident Commander for the mission. The CAP aircrew consisted of Captain Matt Meert (Mission Pilot), Captain Karla West (Mission Scanner) and 1st Lieutenant Robert Hinkhouse (Mission Observer). Over 250 photos were taken showing the flow and spread of flood waters and the damage caused. The photos were uploaded for federal and state emergency management officials' analysis and assessment. Photo used with permission of FEMA.



Figure-6 - Flooding along Big Sioux River on 19 June

- **REDCAP:** AFRCC Mission #14-M-0295A – Missing Person. Around 1800Z, while engaged in SAREX training activity, the aircrew staging base in Rapid City transitioned to a mission base for a real-world search and rescue mission. Butte County's Office of Emergency Management requested SDWG assistance in locating a woman missing since Wednesday. Around Noon Central Time on Saturday, 21 June, the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center in Florida activated the South Dakota Wing to assist in the search. According to media reports, the women and her friend were swept away by a flash flood late Tuesday. The subject's friend was found around Noon Wednesday and was hospitalized in Spearfish.

A Cessna-182T aircraft from Rushmore Composite Squadron (Rapid City) flew two sorties spending some 4.5 hours over the search area before diverting to Spearfish due to poor weather. The aircrew consisted of Capt Josh Hall (Mission Pilot), Lt Lisa Swanson (Mission Scanner) and Maj John Hall (Mission Observer). Capt Bill Collister, from Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, drove to the mission base in Rapid City and acted as a Mission Staff Assistant. Lt Col

Dave Jeffries, Rushmore Composite Squadron (Rapid City) served as Communications Officer at the mission base. Capt David Small from Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron went to Butte County's Incident Command Post and served as Liaison Officer. The ICP, a Quonset hut, was about ½ mile east and 2 miles north of Hwy 85 in rolling hills near the junction with County Road 168. ICP photos with permission of Butte County Sheriff.



Figure-7 - Terrain around Quonset hut used as ICP for REDCAP

BUTTE COUNTY INCIDENT COMMAND POST FOR MISSING PERSON SEARCH. THIS TERRAIN VIEW HIGHLIGHTS THE REMOTENESS OF THE AREA AND DIFFICULTY OF THE SEARCH. THE MISSING PERSON; SHORT, SLENDER, WEARING DARK CLOTHING, AND EXPECTED TO BE LYING DOWN WAS BELIEVED SOMEWHERE WITHIN THE SEARCH AREA.



Figure-8 - Quonset hut used as ICP for REDCAP

- South Dakota Wing Statewide Search and Rescue Exercise. On Saturday, 21 June the South Dakota Wing held its second statewide search and rescue exercise (SAREX) for 2014. This “Split SAREX” took place in the East River area at the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron in Sioux Falls which served as a staging base for aircraft and ground search and rescue teams. In addition, the overall Incident Command Post was also at the squadron headquarters. Captain Neil Schmid, as the Incident Commander, assisted by a mission base staff, controlled the exercise across the state. In the West River area a staging base for several aircraft and aircrews was set up at the Rushmore Composite Squadron in Rapid City, and a staging base for vehicles and ground search team members was set up at Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron in Spearfish.

The search and rescue scenarios involved air and ground searches for two private aircraft overdue at their destinations, for an elderly fisherman missing in Newton Hills State Park, and for an aerial photo survey of flooding conditions near Lake Vermillion. The overall purpose of the activity was threefold: to train mission base staff in organizing and controlling an emergency services mission, to train mission aircrews in the techniques of aerial observation and photography, and to train ground teams in the techniques and skills needed for search and rescue.

- Wessington Springs Tornado Damage Survey Mission #14-1-6428. Also on 19 June, the South Dakota Office of Emergency Management and FEMA tasked SDWG to conduct an aerial photo survey over the path of the EF-2 tornado (127 mph winds) that struck Wessington Springs in Jerauld County on the 18th. Both organizations requested photos showing the entire town to see the path of destruction as well as close-up photos to see the damage. A Cessna-182T from the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron was assigned the mission. The aircraft departed Sioux Falls Regional Airport at approximately 2:45pm for sortie lasting about 2.5 hours. Special care and coordination had to be taken during the flight as South Dakota National Guard aircraft were also active in the area. Wing Commander Col. Seten served as the SDWG point-of-contact for the mission. The CAP aircrew consisted of Captain Neil Schmid (Mission Pilot), Major Todd Epp (Mission Scanner) and Lieutenant Robert Hinkhouse (Mission Observer). Mission photos were uploaded for federal and state emergency management officials' analysis and assessment. According to the 20 June Argus Leader, at least 25 homes were left uninhabitable, three businesses were destroyed and seven businesses suffered severe damage. In the photo, Mission Observer Lt Rob Hinkhouse and Mission Pilot Capt Neil Schmidt, both of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, enter coordinates into the G1000 equipped "glass cockpit" Cessna-182T prior to flying a sortie for the state of South Dakota and FEMA to take photos of tornado damage in Wessington Springs. Photos used with permission of FEMA.



Figure-9 - Pilots load coordinates into aircraft navigation system



Figure-10 - Overview of path of Wessington Springs Tornado (yellow box added by Maj. Kipp)

AUGUST 2014

- C/1st Lt Sullivan Busch, under supervision of Wing Director of Operations Maj Nick Gengler, led 16 Cadets from across the wing and one Senior Member in a field training exercise focused on the skills employed by CAP ground search and rescue teams. Search and rescue teams were formed and deployed for realistic training scenarios.



Figure-11 - SDWG Ground Search Training

- Dismal weather on 22-23 August bedeviled South Dakota Wing's SAREX. Originally to be held at Pierre Composite Squadron, the weather outlook was so poor that it was decided to rebase the SAREX between Rushmore Composite Squadron and Sioux Falls Composite Squadron. An Incident Command Post was set up at both locations to conduct the training activities. Over the course of the two days, nine mission air sorties were flown. The sorties practiced aerial search techniques for a grid, route, and creeping line search. The object of these searches was a simulated small aircraft's emergency locator transmitter (ELT). Once the search aircraft's on-board sensors detected the ELT it flew to the location and orbited. At the same time the search aircraft were airborne, ground search teams were sent to the general search area and used hand-held radio-direction finding equipment to search for the ELT. After an aircraft locked on to an ELT signal it communicated with the ground team to direct them to the simulated crash site to render aid and assistance. In addition to the aircrews and the ground search teams a number of personnel were busy at the two Incident Command Posts providing support in command and control, communications, logistics, public affairs, and general administration. SDWG demonstrated its capability to quickly adapt to changing conditions on short notice and conducted effective training for the over 40 personnel involved. In the photo, taken by Lt Ron Lenz, Col. Mike Beason turns onto final approach to the Rapid City Airport during the SAREX.



Figure-12 - Col Beason turns onto final approach at Rapid City Airport

OCTOBER 2014

- SDWG held one of its best search and rescue exercises ever on 11 October. Over 50 Wing members participated in the Split SAREX, either at the Mission Base in Sioux Falls or the Staging Area in Spearfish. A great deal of training was successfully accomplished for aircrews, mission staff and ground support personnel. The multiple scenarios included air and ground searches for missing aircraft, air and ground searches for missing people, and aerial photography of potential flood areas on a reservoir, a lake, and rivers and creeks. All in all a very successful Saturday. During the course of the SAREX ten air sorties were flown and four ground search sorties were dispatched.



Figure-13 - Col Seten's Exercise Briefing



Figure-14 - Sioux Falls Composite Squadron aircraft taxiing out for a SAREX sortie



Figure-15- Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron ground search team in action

- **REDCAP**: AFRCC Mission #14-M-0517 – ELT. Late into the evening hours of 9 October, the South Dakota Wing searched for an aircraft emergency beacon reportedly in northwest South Dakota. The Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) at Tyndall AFB in Florida alerted SDWG at 3:30pm local time that a satellite picked up an aircraft emergency locator beacon (EPIRB) in the general area of northern Ziebach County. In addition, the Minneapolis Air Traffic Control Center reported that passing aircraft has also picked up an ELT signal. However, the FAA reported no general aviation aircraft were listed as overdue or missing. A Cessna-182T from the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron was dispatched to the area to participate in the search. In addition, a second aircraft, a Cessna-182T departed from the Rushmore Composite Squadron in Rapid City to join in the search. Unable to find the ELT signal both aircraft were recalled to their bases at approximately 9:30pm local time. Two aircraft from CAP's North Dakota Wing (NDWG) also assisted in the search. One of the aircraft flew "high-bird" acting as a communications relay while the other aircraft conducted a "sniffing" search for an ELT signal in the general area. Incident Commander Lt Col Rick Larson controlled the search from a mobile command post and was in continuous contact with the aircraft and local authorities.

NOVEMBER 2014

- **REDCAP**: AFRCC Mission #14-M-0606 – Missing Aircraft. Late in the evening of 29 November the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Tyndall AFB, Florida notified the South Dakota Wing and the Wyoming Wing of the Civil Air Patrol that an aircraft was overdue to return to Spearfish, SD. Poor weather conditions prevented the launch of an immediate search

that night. Around 6:00am on Sunday a ground search team was dispatched from CAP's Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron (Spearfish) to Colony, WY which cell phone forensics indicated as a possible search site. Later that morning three aircraft; two from South Dakota Wing and one from Wyoming Wing, were launched to conduct an aerial search for the missing aircraft's emergency beacon (ELT). Using special onboard sensors the CAP aircraft began picking up the ELT signal and worked to refine the location. About one hour later, using aerial triangulation, a Wyoming Wing aircraft sighted the missing aircraft on the ground in a snow-covered high desert area near the tiny town of Alzada, MT. The ground search team was re-directed from Colony to Alzada where they linked up with officers from the Carter County Sheriff's Office. While the ground team was en route, WYWG and SDWG aircraft took turns orbiting the crash site to direct the ground team to the location. The Lookout Mountain ground search team was first at the crash site arriving ahead of the members of the Clark County Sheriff's Office. The squadron is very proud of the dedication and the professionalism displayed by the members of this eight-man team operating under very trying weather conditions in very rugged terrain. Once Carter County Sheriff Office personnel were at the crash site the SDWG ground team and both wing's aircraft returned to their bases. The outstanding support for the REDCAP was provided by personnel from Rushmore Composite Squadron, Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron and Wing Staff members throughout the state using distributed virtual command and control. Photos courtesy of the Carter County Sheriff's Office.



Figure-16 - CAP Ground Search Team securing aircraft crash site

Figure-17 - CAP Ground Search Team departing aircraft crash site

CHAPTER III – AEROSPACE EDUCATION

August 2014

- Twenty eight SDWG members took part in a joint Aerospace Education – Emergency Services workshop held in Pierre from Thursday, 7 August to Saturday, 9 August.

Maj David Small supervised nine cadets in CAP's Model Rocketry Program at the Pierre airport. Four cadets, C/TSgt Austin Rauscher, C/Amn Nick Kochutin, C/2nd Lt Jared Doyle and C/MSgt Josiah Huntington, completed all three rocketry phases to earn the coveted CAP rocketry badge. The rockets were launched near the airport on Saturday with a single stage rocket constructed and flown by C/MSgt Josiah Huntington reaching a measured altitude of 383.98 feet.

We had special guests fly in from the North Dakota Wing in a FLIR-equipped CAP Cessna-182. The Forward Looking Infrared Radar is excellent for locating the heat signature of individuals at night or in heavy cover. NDWG pilots Capt Dan Villas and Lt Graham Frost and FLIR operator Capt Daryl Billick set up a static display of the FLIR Cessna-182 at the Pierre airport and several cadets got to operate the sensors.

On Friday and Saturday Capt Gary Dettman taught the intricacies of flight fundamentals and control to a group of eight cadets. Utilizing STEM kits sent by CAP National HQ the group built rubber band powered balsa wood aircraft and tested changing various aspects of flight dynamics and flight configurations. Capt Dettman also supervised the cadets as they assembled and, after training on a remote control aircraft simulator, flew a remote controlled powered glider with a six foot wingspan. The model operated at a range of nearly a quarter mile and performed loops and other acrobatic maneuvers.

Also on Friday, cadets and seniors toured the South Dakota National Guard Museum where Wing Historian Maj Todd Epp just opened the new SDWG/CAP exhibit. 17 Cadets, 11 Senior Members and over 60 local children, parents and teachers attended the Open House at the museum. CAP provided tables for recruiting, airplane building, model rocketry and parachuting.



Figure-18 - NDWG FLIR-equipped Cessna-182 on static display

Figure-19 - Balsa wood and powered glider pilots



Figure-20 - CAP Model Rocketry Badge Awardees

September 2014

- On 4 September the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron in Custer received a unit award for excellence in Aerospace Education and C/SMSGt Jason Parry and C/TSgt Thomas Dillon received individual awards for achievements in Aerospace Education. The squadron earned these awards by conducting six hands-on aviation and space-related activities during the school year which included: building rockets out of trash/recyclable materials; building various types of model rockets; studied the effects of meteoroids and space debris at the ISS; studied the protective equipment needed to be worn at the ISS and the difficulties of doing tasks in this protective gear; and completed a two-hour field event by launching Alpha and Tomahawk model rockets. Lt Vicki Bierwirth was the Aerospace Education instructor for these activities. In the photo: Back: Lt James Dillon, Lt Kris Bierwirth, Lt Col Doug Westerlund and Maj Sharon Moad. Front: C/TSgt Thomas Dillon, Lt Vicki Bierwirth (holding the unit AE Award) and C/SMSGt Jason Dillon.



Figure-21 - Crazy Horse Composite Squadron Aerospace Excellence award recipients

November 2014

- On the weekend of 22-23 November, the North Dakota Wing's 119th Air National Guard Cadet Squadron in Fargo hosted a North Central Region Aerospace Education Weekend. Cadets

and senior members from NDWG, SDWG and MNWG participated. The weekend went fairly well and the cadets had a great time. NDWG provided presentations by NDSU students in Aerospace fields. Among the highlights were a tour to the Aerospace Museum in Fargo and the Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile Site. The cadets also had the opportunity to try out flight simulators. O-rides also took place although there were some delays due to icing and flat tires. Most cadets got to go up but, unfortunately not everyone. The eight SDWG cadets got one o-ride each. Many thanks to Maj Gengler for heading up the SDWG contingent.

CHAPTER IV – CADET PROGRAMS

APRIL 2014

- Crazy Horse Composite Squadron cadets built and successfully launched the two rockets required to pass Stage 2 in CAP's Model Rocketry Program. We launched the Alpha Estes Model Rocket and the Tomahawk Cruise Missile Model Rocket on April 26.



Figure-22 - C/SMSgt Jason Parry launches his rocket



Figure-23 - C/TSgt Kyle Stiffarm launches his rocket



Figure-24 - C/SSgt Thomas Dillon launches his rocket

MAY 2014

- Big Sioux Composite Squadron received official word from the Air Force Association as to our final standing in the recently held “CyberPatriot-VI”, the national high school cyber-security competition. We came in 7th out of 864 teams in the All-Service Division but were 1st among the 320 CAP teams that took part. In recognition thereof, the AFA will present us with the CAP Champion Award in the near future. Members of the team, led by C/Capt Joshua Klosterman, were C/MSgt Chris Dinnel, C/MSgt Laura Rudnik, C/AB Josiah Jorenby (not shown) and C/Amn Zebadiah Nelson. This year's team was coached by then C/2nd Lt Tyler Gross and mentored by then 1st Lt Shannon Hofer (not shown).



Figure 25 - Big Sioux Composite Squadron CyberPatriot-VI team

- The cadet color guards of the Rushmore and Big Sioux Composite Squadrons met in competition on 24 May in Pierre. Competition was tight as both color guards were within a few points of each other through all the competition's categories. The lead changed back and forth several times. In the end, Rushmore's color guard nosed out Big Sioux by one point! While Rushmore Composite Squadron won the competition overall, the Big Sioux Composite Squadron won all the awards: Highest Academic Award, Fleet Foot Male and Fleet Foot Female and Outstanding Cadet of the Competition. Of note was how the two units encouraged each other throughout the competition wishing each other good luck and then congratulating each other upon announcement of the winner. Best of all, both teams won honors at the competition.

The Big Sioux Composite Squadron's color guard was made up of: C/SrA Zebadiah Nelson, C/SSgt Jaden Petersen, C/Amn Daniella Petersen, C/SSgt Bronson Lynn, and C/CMSgt Camille Lynn (alternate). The Rushmore Composite Squadron's color guard was made up of: C/CMSgt Errol Kelly, C/MSgt Travis Tenold, C/SSgt Anthony Pruitt, and C/A1C Gunner Gray.



Figure-26 - Rushmore Composite Squadron Color Guard ready to perform

Figure-27 - Rushmore Composite Squadron Color Guard undergoing judging

The officer in charge of the competition was Lt Col Linda Buechler, Director of Cadet Programs. The judges for the competition were: Col Mary Donley (SD001), Lt Col Myra Christensen (SD038), C/Capt Silas Busch (SD031) and C/Capt Joshua Klosterman (SD058). SDWG thanks all of the judges in the competition. Senior Members also present were: Maj Bruce Hack and 1st Lt Ryan Jones (both from SD031), and 1st Lt Jonathan Becker and Maj Nick Gengler (both of SD058). All competition was held at the Community Bible Church, Pierre except for the Outdoor presentation which was held at the Georgia Morse Middle School across from Capitol Building.

JUNE 2014

- Regional Glider Academy: Graduation ceremonies at Mattoon, IL, June 2014. Certified Glider Flight Instructor 1st Lt Marty Larson and Lt Col Gary Hewett attended two glider academies at Mattoon, in southeastern Illinois, from 14-27 June. The Illinois Wing sponsored a triple academy for hot air balloons, powered aircraft, and gliders; and Great Lakes Region sponsored a glider academy. 22 cadet student glider pilots attended the Johnson Flight Academy,

and 16 cadet student glider pilots attended the Region Glider Academy. The overall syllabus for the academies was: Balloon (Familiarization with hot air balloon flight); Basic Glider (Introduction to gliders); Intermediate Glider (Additional maneuvers and solo flight); Advanced Glider (Advanced Maneuvers) and Powered Aircraft (basic powered flight). South Dakota Wing provided a tow plane used in both glider events. In the two weeks of training, CFGs from several states used aero-tows for launching gliders for a total of 771 flights.



Figure-28 - Regional Johnson Flight Academy graduation ceremony



Figure-29 - Johnson Flight Academy wetting down for those who soloed

- **Tops in Cap Cyber-Security:** Mr. Ron Mielke, President of the Air Force Association in South Dakota, and Mr. Ed Revell, President of AFA's Sioux Falls "Dacotah Chapter" presented the Civil Air Patrol Champion Award on 26 June, to the Big Sioux Composite Squadron's cyber-security team. Although we came in 7th of 864 teams in the All-Service Division we were 1st of 320 CAP teams that took part in CyberPatriot-VI. (L-R) Mr. Revell, C/SRA Zebadiah Nelson, C/Capt Joshua Klosterman, C/CMSgt Chris Dinnel, Coach C/2nd Lt Tyler Gross, Mr. Mielke.



Figure-30 - Big Sioux Composite Squadron CyberPatriot-VI team receives AFA award

JULY 2014

Each year the South and North Dakota Wings hold a joint summer encampment for their cadets. This year North Dakota Wing hosted the encampment from 12-20 July at Camp Grafton near Devil's Lake, ND. Each encampment has a theme; for 2014 the theme was cadet leadership. At the encampment, senior ranking cadets brought the skills they have learned at squadron, wing, regional, and national level activities to teach others how to be better leaders. Cadets learn from other cadets and receive tutorage and guidance from their senior officers. This encampment taught leadership, teamwork, honor, courage, and determination as well as military customs and courtesies and drill and ceremonies. There were obstacle courses to run, repelling towers to traverse, leadership classes, physical fitness, and moral leadership guidance. In addition, the cadets got a taste of military life by living in open bay barracks and eating in a military dining facility. Some of the highlights of the encampment were the cadets flying in a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter courtesy of the North Dakota Army Guard, and the use of the Guard's high-tech small arms marksmanship simulator and Humvee operational trainer.



Figure-31 – 2014 Joint Dakotas Encampment logo



Figure-32 - Joint Dakotas Encampment staff and participants

AUGUST 2014

- Imagine an air show with over 500,000 visitors and 10,000 aircraft. This is National Blue Beret, a two week long experience like no other that CAP offers every year in conjunction with the Experimental Aircraft Association's (EAA) "AirVenture" airshow in Oshkosh, WI. This year, four cadets had the honor of representing South Dakota Wing. Our NBB cadets were First Lieutenant Sullivan Busch and Chief Master Sergeant Christopher Dinnel, of Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings, and Captain Nicole Schneider and Major Brandon West, of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron. As a result of their participation the cadets are authorized to wear the coveted blue beret with its prized St. Alban's pin.

The most important mission of the NBB program is to assist the EAA with flight line operations. Cadets are posted along taxiways during the operational hours of the air show directing pilots to their destinations. The second mission is crowd control at the ultra-light and military aircraft areas. The third mission is emergency services - locating lost or overdue aircraft by tracking its emergency locator beacon (ELT). Cadets also staff two station towers to observe aircraft landing on each runway to help keep track of which aircraft are on the ground.

NBB Operations are based out of "the compound," as it is called. This compound includes a hangar for sleeping, an open field for formations, a communications building and, most important to every teenage cadet, a mess hall. The compound is run entirely by CAP personnel. Daily responsibilities include everything from kitchen duty to cleaning bathrooms and doing laundry for the 140 cadets and 42 senior members.



Figure-33 - CAP Contingent to 2014 NCSA Blue Beret



Figure-34 - SDWG Contingent to 2014 NCSA Blue Beret

SEPTEMBER 2014

- 1 September 2014 was Glider Day at the Hot Springs Municipal Airport. Despite a pause for lightning and rain, cadets got orientation rides and cadets and a senior member got glider rides. A CAP Cessna-182 was used for the o-rides. A CAP Cessna 182 tow-plane and Schleicher K7 glider owned by the Black Hills Soaring Club were used for gliding. There were a total of ten o-rides and nine glider rides. It was a wonderful day for everyone, lots of excitement and fun. The activity was coordinated by Maj Craig Goodrich. Senior members and parents coordinated the schedule of events, driving vans, and serving as supervisors. Thanks to Col Mike Beason, Lt Jamie Nowlin, Capt Patrick Nowlin, Lt Ron Lenz, Lt Kris Bierwirth, SM Roy Weller, Capt Richard Geeting, and SM Melissa Weller. Capt Nowlin flew to recertify as a CAP glider tow-pilot under the eye of tow-pilot instructor Lt Col Gary Hewett. Lt Marty Larson was the Certified Flight Instructor in the glider.



Figure-35 - SDWG Glider Day at Hot Springs



Figure-36 - SDWG cadet prepares for glider orientation ride

Figure-37 - SDWG cadet prepares for glider orientation ride

Figure-38 - SDWG cadet prepares for glider orientation ride

Figure-39 - SDWG cadet prepares for glider orientation ride

- SDWG's National Character Day (NCD) program was on 27 September in Pierre. Cadets and seniors arrived from Custer, Pierre, Sioux Falls and Rapid City (11 cadets and 10 seniors).

NCD has two main goals: to motivate cadets to take issues of character and honor seriously, and commit to the drug-free ethic; and, to further integrate the Drug Demand Reduction program into CAP's overall Cadet Program. Activities for the event included speakers and a variety of activities. Speakers included Lt Col Linda Buechler, Division of Criminal Investigation Officer Don McCrea, and Lt Col (Dr.) Mark Huntington.



Figure-40 - SDWG National Character Day classroom



Figure-41 - SDWG National Character Day cadet participants

OCTOBER 2014

- Congratulations to Rushmore Composite Squadron and Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on being named to CAP's list of "Quality Cadet Unit" for 2013-2014! On 10 October Mr. Steven Trupp, Program Manager for Cadet Programs at NHQ announced that 299 CAP units had earned the title "Quality Cadet Unit".

- CyberPatriot-VII, Round One: The Big Sioux Composite Squadron's cyber-security team took part in the CyberPatriot-VII competition Round One was the weekend of 24-26 October. Of the 1,007 teams competing in the All Services Division our cyber-warriors scored in the top five teams. The competition is getting tougher and tougher each year! CAP competes in the "All Services Division" (Army, Air Force, Navy Marine Corps JROTC, Naval Sea Cadet Corps, and CAP). This year there are 400 teams from CAP alone. Round Two will be held 14-16 November.

NOVEMBER 2014

- CyberPatriot-VII, Round Two: Team "Big Sioux" made it through Round Two and into the State Round and Platinum Tier. All CyberPatriot teams participate in the State Round but only the Platinum Tier can advance to the national finals. Only the top third of teams move into the Platinum Tier. The top six teams move from the State Round to the Regional Round and from there only the top two teams in each category (CAP/ROTC) go to the national finals. The State Round runs 5-7 December.

CHAPTER V – CADET ORIENTATION FLIGHTS

February 2014

- **Big Sioux Composite Squadron:** On 22 February, Capt. Matt Meert flew a Cessna-182T from the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron to Brookings so the cadets there could participate in the flight orientation program. The day's first o-ride involved Cadet Salem Pleasants and C/SrA Zebadiah Nelson, the second C/Amn Graham Dinnel and C/CMSgt Chris Dinnel. Each o-ride consisted of two sorties; the first sortie was from Brookings Regional Airport to Madison Municipal Airport where they landed, switched the cadet at the controls and then flew the second sortie back to Brookings Regional Airport. The orientation ride program exposes the cadets to the excitement and adventure of aviation, teaches them general aerodynamic principles and familiarizes them with light aircraft and general aviation.
- **Rushmore Composite Squadron:** Cadet Airman Malia Goodrich experienced her first CAP flight on Saturday, February 1. At the aircraft's controls was her dad, Maj. Craig Goodrich. It was a sunny, windy and very cold day, with the wind chill well below zero. They were very thankful that they were able to do the preflight checks in a heated hangar. As can be seen in the photo they both enjoyed the orientation ride.



Figure-42 - Rushmore Composite Squadron Cadet O-Ride

- **Sioux Falls Composite Squadron:** New senior member Greg Lair, a pilot, has allowed the squadron to revitalize its orientation ride program. We flew four of six planned o-rides on 15 February. This photo, taken by SM Lair, shows C/Amn Julia Lair and C/Amn Keith Warne after their sorties. Cadet Lair received a Certificate of First Flight. This was the second flight for Cadet Warne. Cadets Ivan and Kyle Kreger also flew on an o-ride. Unfortunately, the wind kicked up after landing from Sortie #4 and there wasn't time for a photo of Kregers in the rush to secure the aircraft.

Squadron Commander Capt. Erickson, pictured at right, wants to reinstate passing out orientation ride parent information brochures, presenting Orientation Flight Certificates to participants at the next squadron meeting, and news releases sent to local media. In addition, Capt. Erickson has secured permission from Col. Seten to periodically fly aircraft to Brookings to conduct orientation rides for their cadets. Further SFCS o-ride sorties are planned for 22 February.



Figure-43 – Sioux Falls Composite Squadron Cadet O-Ride

March 2014

- Sioux Falls Composite Squadron: A break in the cold and wind on 8 March gave three cadets the opportunity to earn “First Flight” Certificates. Cadets Tristan Fischer, Christopher Schuppan and Cadet Airman Kyle Clement flew their initial orientation flights. The three excited and enthusiastic cadets enjoyed their pilot duties, each flying the aircraft for one hour. Cadets Clement and Fischer flew with pilot Capt. Neil Schmid. The first o-ride consisted of two sorties. The first, with Cadet Fischer at the controls, was from Sioux Falls Airport to Madison Municipal Airport where they landed, switched the cadet at the controls, then Cadet Clement flew the aircraft back to Sioux Falls. The second o-ride was a single sortie with Lt. Col. Greg Lair as pilot with Cadet Schuppan at the controls. That flight was around the local Sioux Falls area.



Figure-44 - Sioux Falls Composite Squadron Cadet O-Ride

May 2014

- Sioux Falls Composite Squadron: Saturday, May 10th, was a big day for C/Amn Dylan Purkapile - his very first ride in an airplane of any kind! Not only that, he successfully flew a Cessna-172 as part of the CAP's Orientation Flight program. According to Pilot and O-Flight Coordinator Lt. Col. Greg Lair, Dylan flew the aircraft from Sioux Falls Regional Airport to the Madison Municipal Airport. "He was very smooth on the controls, a natural pilot" said Lair. Dylan's goal is to learn to fly and join the military, possibly becoming a fighter pilot. His first flight was a memorable experience. At the other end of the spectrum, C/CMSgt Devon Brown experienced his fourth powered flight, part of the CAP's 10 flight program. Devon learned the use of instruments in flight as he piloted the Cessna-172 from Madison Municipal Airport to Sioux Falls Regional Airport. This flight completes 7 rides for Devon, including two prior glider flights. Devon's goal is to attend the Naval Academy and join the Navy, just like his Dad, CAP 1st Lt. Vinnie Brown. This summer Devon plans to further his flying experience by attending a CAP-sponsored powered flight academy in Nebraska.



Figure-45 - Sioux Falls Composite Squadron Cadet O-Ride

- Sioux Falls Composite Squadron: Saturday morning, 17 May, was a perfect time for Cadets Christopher Schuppan and Blake Hayden to complete their second powered CAP Orientation Flights. Both cadets completed the normal flight maneuver syllabus, which includes aircraft stability, attitude flying, trim controls, shallow banked turns, and load factors on the aircraft. Both cadet-pilots flew for an hour and maintained excellent aircraft control while touring the areas of Sioux Falls, Brookings and Lake Madison.



Figure-46 - Sioux Falls Composite Squadron Cadet O-Ride

July 2014

- Sioux Falls Composite Squadron: On 5 July, Pilot-in-Command Lt. Col. Greg Lair (center) took two cadets for an orientation ride on a CAP Cessna-172P. On the first sortie C/A1C Julia Lair was at the controls for a flight from Sioux Falls Regional Airport to the municipal airport at Madison. Cadet Lair (left) enjoyed her second powered flight. A natural pilot, she easily navigated to Madison. She looks forward to studying Aeronautical Engineering and hopes to become a USAF Fighter Pilot. On the second sortie C/SRA Ivan Kreger (right) was at the controls enjoying his fourth powered flight as he flew from Madison Municipal Airport back to Sioux Falls Regional Airport. He was smoothly demonstrated skills he learned on previous orientation flights. He hopes to continue flight training and in the future intends to study meteorology. Both cadets assisted with the pre-flight activities putting their CAP Aircraft Ground Handling skills to work. The weather was perfect, and the cadets had a great time.



Figure-47 - Sioux Falls Composite Squadron Cadet O-Ride

August 2014

- Rushmore Composite Squadron: On 18 August, C/AB Jonathan Busch and C/A1C Nicholas Kochutin took off on a cadet orientation flight. Command pilot, Maj. Craig Goodrich, piloted the Cessna-182 to Custer County Airport, with aerial tours of the Shrine of Democracy (Mount Rushmore) and Crazy Horse Memorial on the way. The plan was to land at Custer County Airport and swap seats. However, although the stated crosswind on the Automated Surface Observing System was just 5 knots, the actual wind was significant and gusty. The aircraft received a significant gust just as it was touching down and ballooned considerably, so Maj. Goodrich rejected the landing. Valuing safety over mission, he decided to return to Rapid City for a full stop. As it was a bumpy day to fly, Cadet Busch wanted Maj. Goodrich to do 95% of the flying that day – it took a lot of work to keep the wings level and for everyone to feel OK. The moderate turbulence on the way home took away the desire to fly any more that day. But the cadets were heroes – they didn't get sick! Cadet Kochutin didn't get to have another O-ride that day as planned, but he got a ride in the back seat.



Figure-48 - Rushmore Composite Squadron Cadet O-Ride



Figure-49 - Rushmore Composite Squadron Cadet O-Ride



Figure-50 - Rushmore Composite Squadron Cadet O-Ride

September 2014

- Sioux Falls Composite Squadron: 6 September was the first flight for Cadet Oscar Holmberg. In fact, this was his first flight in a small aircraft. Under the watchful eye of Capt. Neil Schmid, he successfully piloted the plane from Sioux Falls to Vermillion and landed at Yankton. He's looking forward to future flights in the program. C/SSgt Kyle Kreger flew his fourth powered flight and learned the use of instruments while airborne. After a brief tour of Gavin's Point Dam and sail boat races, he skillfully piloted the Cessna-172 back to Sioux Falls.



Figure-51 – Sioux Falls Composite Squadron Cadet O-Ride

November 2014

- Sioux Falls Composite Squadron: The cold weather on 22 November finally took a break, which turned out to be a great day for an o-ride piloted by Capt. Neil Schmid. This day was the first flight in any kind of airplane for C/AB Eric Ortega (left) and he enjoyed every minute of the one hour flight from Sioux Falls to Yankton. After a rest stop in Yankton, C/A1C Chris Schuppan (right) flew the Cessna-172 from Yankton airport to the Gavin's Point Dam and

around the lake. There were hundreds of geese floating in the lake, enjoying the warm sunshine. On the return leg to Sioux Falls, Chris flew the advanced flight maneuvers described in syllabus 8/3rd powered orientation flight. These maneuvers demonstrated slow flight, steep turns, s-turns, and search patterns used in SAR. There was a discussion of stalls, steep spirals, spins and load factors affecting the aircraft.



Figure-52 - Sioux Falls Composite Squadron Cadet O-Ride

December 2014

- Rushmore Composite Squadron cadets took to the sky over Christmas break. Near-zero temperatures, clear skies, and low winds were a perfect formula for a great day to fly. C/Amn Samuel Lawrence, C/A1C Tyler Eberle, C/Amn Isaak Weller, and C/TSgt Joe Jagodzinski each had the opportunity to sit at the aircraft's controls. The flights departed Rapid City and headed west over the city and then over the northern Black Hills. Cadet Lawrence was first in the front seat as it was his first o-flight. The cadets had opportunity to see the entire Black Hills. The first stop was Spearfish then, flying IFR (I Follow Roads), to Lead following Hwy 385 south to Pactola Reservoir and Sheridan Lake. This was followed by a quick jaunt to the Mount Rushmore area, around Harney Peak, Crazy Horse, again stopping at Custer County Airport. From Custer we flew south to Hot Springs before returning to Rapid City. In the photo, front left is C/Amn Samuel Lawrence, front right is Capt. Josh Hall.



Figure-53 - Rushmore Composite Squadron Cadet O-Ride

CHAPTER VI – OTHER NOTABLE EVENTS

January 2014

- SDWG flew Mission #14-C-4130 - Aerial Surveys of Terrestrial Wildlife on the 6th, 7th, 15th, 18th, 29th and 31st of January in support of the state Department of Game, Fish & Parks and South Dakota State University. The GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. 12.5 flight hours were in support of GF&P and 11.1 flight hours were in support of SDSU for a total of 23.6 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. CAP Pilots for the January surveys were Lt Col Gary Hewett and Col Mike Beason.

February 2014

- Governor Dennis Daaugard issued a proclamation that designated 20 February as Civil Air Patrol Day in South Dakota. The proclamation commends SDWG for its multitude of missions and service to local communities, counties and the state.



Figure-54 - SD Governor poses with SDWG contingent on Rotunda staircase

- On Thursday, 20 February members of the Wing from across the state converged on the state Capitol in Pierre to meet with legislators to thank them for their support. Over 40 members representing all six squadrons made the trip.

Col Seten commented, “The purpose is to tell state policymakers the story of Civil Air Patrol in South Dakota, of the many volunteer hours spent on air and ground missions for local, county, tribal, state and federal government, law enforcement agencies and first responder organizations.

We also want them to know of our cadet program that prepares young people not just for careers in the military, but to be good citizens.” He also said it is important that the public understands in a time of limited budgets, SDWG helps stretch the resources of the state and saves money by using well-trained, professional volunteers, volunteers who are held to the same level of performance and knowledge as their paid colleagues.

At the opening of their respective sessions the state Senate and House recognized the many contributions of the South Dakota Wing with a prolonged standing ovation. In the Senate, Lt. Gov. Matt Michels, who was presiding, specifically commended our involvement in the state’s flood response efforts in 2011 and our support in state recovery efforts from 2013’s Winter Storm Atlas.

Uniformed members of Wing served a snack in the lobbies off the Senate and House chambers for legislators, lobbyists, staff and others. Our personnel briefed senators and representatives on the latest enhancements and advancements to the Wing’s abilities and capabilities, answered questions and handed out copies of CAP’s annual financial report and SDWG’s legislative brochure.

A pleasant surprise for a small group of our members was an impromptu chat with U.S. Senator John Thune (R-SD) who was in the Capitol building on other business. He stopped his scheduled itinerary and spent several minutes shaking hands and talking with us.



Figure-55 - SDWG CC and CV sit in state Senate gallery on CAP Day



Figure-56 - SDWG cadets sit in state House gallery on CAP Day

- SDWG flew Mission #14-C-4525 - Aerial Surveys of Terrestrial Wildlife on the 11th, 12th, 25th, and 26th of February in support of the state Department of Game, Fish & Parks and South Dakota State University. The GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. 10.3 flight hours were in support of GF&P and 6.0 flight hours were in support of SDSU for a total of 16.3 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. The CAP Pilot for the February surveys was Lt Col Gary Hewett.

- On 5 February, SDWG officers Lt Neil Schmid and Lt Col Larson met with two officers of the South Dakota Air National Guard, Lt Col Greg Lair, Commander of the 175th Fighter Squadron (also a CAP pilot) and Capt Jerry Grotjohn, 175th Fighter Squadron Airspace Manager,

to brief them on the results of SDWG 2013 Low-Level Route Survey (LLRS) missions and to begin making plans for SDWG LLRS missions in 2014.

Each year since 1998 the South Dakota Air National Guard requests SDWG conduct LLRS of selected military training air routes and aerial Military Operations Areas (MOA). The purpose is to locate and identify uncharted obstructions such as antenna towers and noise sensitive areas (such as stock pens) that should be avoided by SDANG pilots.

When SDWG flies a LLRS, a command post is set up for C³ support for the aircraft. SDWG Lt Col Larson serves as Incident Commander. 1st Lt Schmid of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron is Project Officer and Lead Planner for LLRS missions. Wing Commander Col Seten and Vice Commander Lt Col Larson thank all of the flight crews on the 2013 LLRS missions - 65 hours flying in direct support to military flight safety.



Figure-57 - Low-Level Route Survey photo of towers at Turkey Ridge

March 2014

- Capt Shannon Hofer assumed command of Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings on 4 March. He will continue his duties as the Director of IT for the wing as well.

- SDWG flew Mission #14-C-4967 - Aerial Surveys of Terrestrial Wildlife on the 10th, 12th and 25th of March in support of the state Department of Game, Fish & Parks and South Dakota State University. The GF&P surveyed deer, mountain goats, mountain lions, and elk. The SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. 7.8 flight hours were in support of GF&P and 7.7 flight hours were in support of SDSU for a total of 15.5 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. The CAP pilot for the March surveys was Lt Col Gary Hewett.



Figure-58 - Mountain lion wearing radio tracking collar

APRIL 2014

- After the CAP-USAF Operational Evaluation on Saturday, 26 April, participants swiftly changed into their dress uniforms to attend the 2014 Wing Conference and Awards Banquet at the beautiful Holiday Inn-City Centre in downtown Sioux Falls. Maj Todd Epp was Master of Ceremonies and he kept the speeches and the awards presentations flowing smoothly. One of the highlights was the year-in-review slideshow which highlighted some of the more serious aspects of what SDWG does, but also included some of the lighter moments as well. Sunday, 27 April, was set aside for workshops and breakout sessions for the senior members on a variety of key aspects of Wing operations and administration. A special program had also been set up to keep the cadets active and engaged. It was a busy weekend for all the attendees but at the end the universal comment was that it had all been worthwhile, informative and instructive.

- SDWG flew Mission #14-C-5454 – Aerial Surveys of Terrestrial Wildlife on the 10th, 11th, 18th and 21st of April in support of the state Department of Game, Fish & Parks (GF&P) and South Dakota State University (SDSU). The GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk. SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. The surveys resulted in a total of 18.3 hours flying over

western South Dakota and the Black Hills. The CAP pilots for the April surveys were Lt Col Buck DeWeese on the 10th and 11th and Lt Col Gary Hewett on the 18th and 21st.

- Exercise Falcon Keynote 2014, Mission #14-1-5487 – Airborne Intercept. SDWG again provided support to the South Dakota Air National Guard by participating as the target aircraft in SDANG Exercise Falcon Keynote 2014. The purpose of the exercise was to provide the 114th Fighter Wing's alert aircrews training in aerospace control alert intercept procedures, a function of its Homeland Security mission. A CAP Cessna-182T aircraft, based in Sioux Falls, acted as the target aircraft. The objective for the pilots of the F16s of the 175th Fighter Squadron was to hone the skills of being able to quickly and safely intercept and evaluate a slow moving aircraft that could pose a security risk or that may have inadvertently strayed into restricted airspace. SDWG is pleased and proud to provide this cost effective support to SDANG by providing target aircraft for them to practice air intercept techniques. CAP partners with the USAF helping to provide a total force approach to readiness and enhanced national security.

- 1st Lt Kris Bierwirth assumed command of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron in Custer on 3 April. She has filled many roles within the squadron since 2007.

May 2014

- SDWG flew Mission #14-C-5759 - Aerial Surveys of Terrestrial Wildlife on the 5th, 9th, 14th, 19th, 20th, and 27th of May in support of the state's Department of Game, Fish & Parks (GF&P) and the South Dakota State University (SDSU). GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. The surveys resulted in just over of 25 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. The CAP pilot for the May surveys was Lt Col Gary Hewett. He was accompanied by personnel from GF&P and SDSU.

June 2014

- SDWG flew Mission #14-C-6209 - Aerial Surveys of Terrestrial Wildlife on the 5th, 10th and 23rd of June in support of the Department of Game, Fish & Parks (GF&P) and the South Dakota State University (SDSU). GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. The surveys resulted in 11.4 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. The CAP pilot for the flights on the 5th and 10th June surveys was Lt Col Gary Hewett. The pilot for the flight on the 23rd was Maj Craig Goodrich. They were accompanied by Mr. Brandon Tycz from SDSU.

- Well over 30 CAP members and family attended the "Change of Command Party" where Capt Bill Collister officially took the reins of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on Saturday, 28 June 2014. Members from the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron, Rushmore Composite Squadron, Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron and the Air Force Reserve were present. Capt Collister started his CAP career in the early 1970s as a cadet, advancing through the ranks into the cadet officer grades. He's been very active in South Dakota and Wyoming wings over the years and has a wealth of knowledge and experience in CAP.

- Hurricanes don't happen too often in the Black Hills. However, on Thursday evening, 26 June 2014, in Spearfish, SD, weather conditions rivaled the monsters usually seen at lower latitudes. A line of thunderstorms produced winds clocked at peak 69 mph at the Spearfish airport; with sustained velocities not much less than that (winds of 80 mph west of town in the same weather event).

The squadron was in the midst of its regular meeting while howling winds rattled the squadron building. At one point C/CMSgt Connor Caneva stepped out onto the small porch to peer at the angry skies and noticed an airplane on the ramp, 100 yards away, moving backwards toward a row of parked cars. The large, twin-engine Cessna-421 had been parked across the direction of the wind. The force of the wind weathervaned the plane, putting the nose into the wind, and caused it to jump the wooden wheel chocks. The Cessna then began to be blown backward. The forecast apparently under-predicted the storm's intensity, and the plane wasn't tied down.

Lt Col Buck DeWeese and C/CMSgt Rosby joined Cadet Caneva in running over to the scene. Their combined efforts managed to bring the aircraft to a halt just short of the parked cars. They re-chocked the aircraft's wheels so it would not move, then the cadets also took some clothesline type cord and braided into a strong rope to help secure the aircraft from the high wind. After the aircraft had been secured the airport manager was called and the information passed along.

Though the Cessna-421 "rescue" was unexpected and not associated with a specific mission as such, the CAP members were happy to participate in this "save," that prevented airplane and automobile owners from untold inconveniences and expenses.



Figure-59 - Cessna-421 rescued by CAP at Spearfish

July 2014

- SDWG has been selected as the North Central Region winner of the Search and Rescue Missions Award. This marks the second time in three years that South Dakota Wing has been awarded this high honor. North Central Region commander, Colonel Robert Todd, stated that the award is well merited as the Wing has been both aggressive and innovative in finding new missions for our aircraft and personnel. While SDWG is one of the smallest wings in the nation we are in the top ten nationally in "per-capita" flight hours. The award will be presented to SDWG commander Col Seten at CAP's National Convention to be held in Las Vegas from 14-16 August 2014.

- SDWG flew Mission #14-C-6610 - Aerial Surveys of Terrestrial Wildlife on ten days in July in support of the Department of Game, Fish & Parks (GF&P) and the South Dakota State University (SDSU). GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. The surveys resulted in 14.2 flight hours for SDSU and 12.7 flight hours for GF&P for a total of 26.9 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. The CAP pilot for all the flights was Lt Col Gary Hewett. He was accompanied by Mr. Brandon Tycz from SDSU on the flights on the 2nd, 9th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th and by Ms. Paige Mueggenberg from GF&P on the flights on the 3rd, 8th, 16th, 23rd and 28th.

- Exercise Falcon Keynote 2014, Mission #14-1-5487 – Airborne Intercept. SDWG continued to provide support to the South Dakota Air National Guard by participating on three occasions as a target aircraft in SDANG Exercise Falcon Keynote 2014. The purpose of the exercise was to provide the 114th Fighter Wing's alert aircrews training in aerospace control alert intercept procedures, a function of its Homeland Security mission. A CAP Cessna-172P aircraft, based in Sioux Falls, acted as the target aircraft. The objective for the pilots of the F16s of the 175th Fighter Squadron was to hone the skills of being able to quickly and safely intercept and evaluate a slow moving aircraft that could pose a security risk or that may have inadvertently strayed into restricted airspace. SDWG is pleased and proud to provide this cost effective support to SDANG by providing target aircraft for them to practice air intercept techniques. CAP partners with the USAF helping to provide a total force approach to readiness and enhanced national security.

- SDWG flew Mission #14-1-6809 - Low-Level Route Surveys. Each year the South Dakota Air National Guard (SDANG) requests South Dakota Wing conduct low-level route surveys (LLRS) of selected military air training routes and aerial Military Operations Areas (MOA). These military air training routes cover southeastern South Dakota, northwestern Iowa and northeastern Nebraska leading to and from the O'Neill MOA in northeastern Nebraska.

The purpose of these sorties is to search for uncharted antenna towers and changes to charted towers, and noise sensitive areas (stock pens and feedlots), areas to be avoided by SDANG pilots. There are an amazing number of these between Sioux City and Omaha. SDWG aircrews noted many on air training routes. Updated charts provided by SDANG have helped SDWG aircrews in eliminating duplicate photos of known targets.

During the month of July, SDWG flew seven sorties for a total of 18 flight hours that covered approximately 1739 nautical miles. The budget calls for 6,000 miles with 67 flying hours. At this point, we have completed 30% of the mission. The amazing thing is that these flights occurred between 16-24 July. There have been numerous flight cancellations due to unstable weather and thunderstorms, including planned 700 mile sorties for completion of the O'Neill MOA. The goal is to complete all low-level route surveys no later than 31 August.

August 2014

- SDWG flew Mission #14-C-7129 - Aerial Surveys of Terrestrial Wildlife on five days in August in support of the Department of Game, Fish & Parks (GF&P) and the South Dakota State University (SDSU). GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveyed

elk and bobcats. The surveys resulted in 9.9 flight hours for GF&P and 8.9 flight hours for SDSU and for a total of 18.8 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. The CAP pilot on the 4th, 14th and 27th was Lt Col Gary Hewett. He was accompanied by Ms. Paige Mueggenberg of GF&P. The pilot on the 12th and 25th was Maj Craig Goodrich. He was accompanied by Mr. Brandon Tycz from SDSU.

- SDWG flew Mission #14-1-6809 - Low-Level Route Surveys. Each year the South Dakota Air National Guard's 114th Fighter Wing requests South Dakota Wing conduct Low Level-Level Route Surveys (LLRS) of military air training routes (MTR) and aerial Military Operations Areas (MOA). These MTRs cover southeastern South Dakota, northwest Iowa, and northeast Nebraska leading to/from the O'Neill MOA in northeast Nebraska. Sioux Falls' Joe Foss Field is an Air Combat Command (ACC) F-16 base and this airspace is used by active and reserve ACC units.

The purpose of these surveys is to ensure obstruction clearance at the minimum altitude usable for training. The CAP aircrews note potential hazards and obstacles not listed on current charts, assess possible air traffic conflicts from public use airports, airways and airstrips, and assess other potential flight safety hazards. In addition, they note the locations of noise sensitive areas such as stock pens and feedlots.

During the month of August, SDWG flew 12 sorties for a total of 35.6 flight hours that covered approximately 3,886 nautical miles. For 2014 SDWG flew a total of 19 LLRS sorties for just under 53 hours of flight time that covered 6,051 nautical miles. The activity involved two Cessna-172 and two Cessna-182 aircraft. The aircrews were comprised of 18 members from Sioux Falls, Brookings, Pierre and Rapid City. SDWG's unique uses for its aircraft put it in the Top 20 wings in the continental U.S. for aircraft utilization.



Figure-60 - Maj Goodrich plots LLRS routes in support of the SD Air National Guard

- On 8 August, Wing Historian Maj Todd Epp opened the SDWG/CAP exhibit opened at the South Dakota National Guard Museum in Pierre. The exhibit will run through October. The exhibit celebrates SDWG/SDNG assistance to the other in the accomplishment of their missions.

The exhibit features current and decommissioned CAP uniforms such as the "Smurf Suit," the Corporate Dress Uniform, current and past flight jackets and a battle dress uniform. It also includes current and past equipment such as an aircraft radio, a ground radio, a GPS unit and pilot kneeboard. It also includes CAP insignia, the SDWG Roundup magazines, various awards, patches, a chart with LLRS routes highlighted, etc. A PowerPoint presentation showcases photos of SDWG and SDNG members and activities. All of the items are identified with descriptions, with the history of the CAP, cooperation between the SDWG and the SDNG and other notable and interesting facts about the SDWG and CAP and SDNG on placards. The SDWG items are in two large cases, three mannequins, and two easels.



Figure-61 - Maj Epp and Museum Director Ms. Sonja Johnson at the SDWG/CAP exhibit

September 2014

- SDWG flew Mission #14-C-7604 - Aerial Surveys of Terrestrial Wildlife on 4 days in September in support of the state Department of Game, Fish & Parks (GFP) and the South Dakota State University (SDSU). GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. The resulted in 13.6 flight hours in September flying hours over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. CAP pilots for the flights were Lt Col Buck DeWeese and Lt Col Gary Hewett. They were accompanied by either Mr. Brandon Tycz from SDSU or by Ms. Paige Mueggenberg or Ms. Lauren Wiechman from GF&P.

- SDWG flew Mission #14-1-7655 - Low-Level Route Survey – West River on 14 September. Ellsworth AFB's 28th Bomb Wing requested a low-level route survey on a specific military training route (MTR) in the West River area. The purpose of this LLRS was to look for uncharted obstacles, environmentally sensitive areas and potential safety hazards to military aircraft operating at high speed at a low level in that area. This task was assigned to a crew from Rushmore Composite Squadron consisting of Capt Joshua Hall (Mission Pilot), Capt Ryan Jones (Mission Observer), and 1st Lt Christina Voll (Mission Scanner Trainee). The aircrew flew a Cessna-182T on three sorties surveying the MTR from Rapid City into Wyoming for a total of 9.3 flying hours during the course of which several new towers were photographed and charted.

- Six members of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron took part in an attack response exercise at the 114th Fighter Wing of the South Dakota Air National Guard. Playing the part of

injured airmen, they were “moulaged” as victims, simulating injuries sustained as participants in the exercise. Led by Capt Jerry Foy, himself an ANG veteran, the CAP crew underwent an extreme makeover by ANG medics from the 114th Medical Group. ANG Lt Col Larry DeBuhr and his staff were tasked with assessing Guard member's ability to perform self-aid and buddy care throughout the event, held on Saturday, 6 September. That's where the CAP crew came in.

The CAP crew arrived on base and was moulaged with various simulated injuries, ranging from minor to major; burns, lacerations, amputations - all the trappings of a disaster. The crew then broke up into groups led by inspectors who traveled with the "wounded" throughout the base during exercise incidents. The teams presented the "victims" in various work centers, gauging the response to the casualties, and assessing proper procedures to address the injuries. The CAP “victims” were treated by ANG members who learned hands-on procedures. Fortunately, after expert treatment, everyone survived the exercise! Lt. Col. DeBuhr commented that the professionalism of the CAP members aided greatly in the exercise evaluation, and thanked each member for their involvement.



Figure-62 - A cadet has moulage applied in an exercise supporting the SD ANG



Figure-63 - Crew of cadet victims in an exercise supporting the SD ANG

- North Central Region Conference in Des Moines, IA was the site for this year's North Central Region CAP Conference. It kicked off 20 September, as NCR Wing Commanders and their representatives presented yearly overviews of each of the seven Wings' activities and accomplishments. Col Larry Ragland, CAP NHQ Chief of Staff, addressed the group on behalf of National Commander Maj Gen Joe Vasquez. Col Ragland said the new leadership team is looking to decrease the regulatory footprint in CAP, increase recruiting and retention and develop new CAP missions for America. Wing staff attending included SDWG Commander, Col John Seten, his wife and SDWG Personnel Officer, 1st Lt Lori Seten, SDWG Professional Development Officer and past CC, Col Mary Donley, SDWG Vice Commander, Lt Col Rick Larson, and SDWG Cadet Programs Director Lt Col Linda Buechler. Cadet members from across the region held a Cadet Advisory Council meeting. C/Maj Joshua Klosterman represented SDWG CAC. At the Saturday evening awards banquet a POW-MIA ceremony was held and Col Todd paid tribute to long serving CAP members. Receiving awards were SDWG PAO Maj Bruce Kipp (NCR PAO of the Year) and SDWG Aerospace Education Officer Lt Col Buck DeWeese (NCR Frank G. Brewer Memorial Aerospace Lifetime Achievement Award). Col Seten commented "it's a real testament to the dedication of SDWG's members when we can brief being the top flying hour wing in NCR, have the top national CAP CyberPatriot team and gain top NCR SAR wing honors!"

October 2014

- SDWG flew Mission #15-1-3517, locally dubbed “Operation Windmill” from 19-24 October. Field tests were conducted in the vicinity of the Tyler Minnesota Common Air Route Surveillance radar site near Brookings. The tests were part of an interagency effort to assess wind turbine radar interference mitigation technologies, radar systems calibration, and how wind farms hamper the ability to detect objects in the area. The tests were conducted by Sandia National Laboratories and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s Lincoln Laboratory. The test operations included the use of SDWG aviation assets for approximately 48 flight hours. CAP aircraft and crews flew flight operations daily during each field test. Essentially, the CAP aircraft flew around at an assigned altitude and pattern for eight hours a day. Capt Neil Schmid of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron was the project officer.

- SDWG flew Mission #15-C-3240 - Aerial Surveys of Terrestrial Wildlife on 6 days in October in support of the state Department of Game, Fish & Parks (GFP) and the South Dakota State University (SDSU). GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. The resulted in 24.91flight hours flying hours over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. CAP pilots for the flights were Lt Col Buck DeWeese and Lt Col Gary Hewett. They were accompanied by either Mr. Brandon Tycz from SDSU or by Ms. Paige Mueggenberg or Ms. Lauren Wiechman from GF&P.

- Capt. Neil Schmid of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron attained a significant aviation achievement on 29 October! Flying a SDWG aircraft he completed his “Passport South Dakota Gold Level Award”. The program, which began in 2010, is sponsored by the South Dakota Pilots Association to promote general aviation within the state. The program involves attendance at aviation safety seminars, visiting South Dakota museums with aviation displays and to land at SD public airports. Neil completed the final requirement with stops at Belle Fourche, Spearfish, Sturgis, Philip, Kadoka and Presho. The Gold Level Award requires the Neil have landed at all 74 of the public-use airports in the state, attend four air safety seminars and visit four South Dakota museums with aviation-related displays. The Passport South Dakota Award consists of an “I Flew South Dakota” patch and, for the gold level, a “74 Airports” tab for wear on his civilian flight jacket.

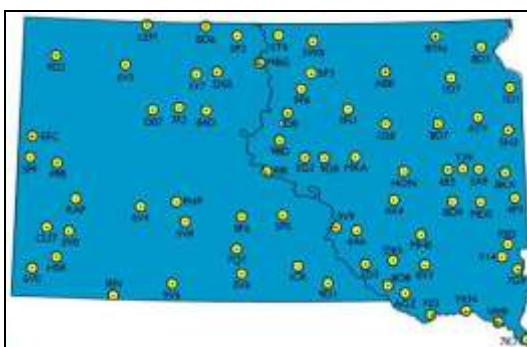


Figure-64 - Capt Schmid after his final landing for Passport South Dakota

Figure-65 - Map of all 74 public use airports in South Dakota

Figure-66 - Gold Level Award patch and tab for Capt Schmid’s civilian flight jacket

November 2014

- SDWG flew Mission #15-C-3596 - Aerial Surveys of Terrestrial Wildlife on 5 days in November in support of the Department of Game, Fish & Parks (GF&P) and South Dakota State University (SDSU). GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. The result was 15.7 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. CAP pilot for the flights was Lt Col Gary Hewett. Depending on whom the sortie supported they were accompanied by either Mr. Brandon Tycz from SDSU (6 flying hours) or by Ms. Lauren Wiechman from GF&P (9.7 flying hours).

- Members of Pierre Composite Squadron met at the state capitol building on 22 November to decorate a Civil Air Patrol Christmas tree for the 34th annual “Christmas at the Capitol”. This year’s theme commemorates the 125th Anniversary of statehood for South Dakota. The number of trees is limited and it is prestigious to be allowed to place a tree in the capitol. The display will be visited by thousands of people during the open house dates. The Grand Lighting Ceremony took place on 25 November after a welcome, introduction and Christmas wishes from Governor Dennis Daugaard and First Lady Linda Daugaard.



Figure-67 - SDWG Christmas Tree at the State Capitol

December 2014

- SDWG flew Mission #15-C-4710 – SDWG flew aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife on six days December in support of the state Department of Game, Fish & Parks and South Dakota State University. GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveyed elk

and bobcats. The result was 18.5 hours for GF&P and 7.2 hours for SDSU for a total of 25.7 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. CAP pilot for the flights was Lt. Col. Gary Hewett. Depending on whom the sortie supported he was accompanied by Ms. Lauren Wiechman from GF&P or Mr. Brandon Tycz of SDSU.

- Five members of Big Sioux Composite Squadron took part in laying decorative holiday wreaths on veterans' graves at the Greenwood Cemetery in Brookings. The local Veterans of Foreign Wars and the local American Legion were also in attendance and participated in the ceremony and the laying of wreaths. The squadron's color guard, albeit a diminished one, presented and retired the colors adding an additional note of solemnity to the occasion.



Figure-68 - Big Sioux Composite Squadron Wreaths Across America



Figure-69 - Big Sioux Composite Squadron Wreaths Across America

- Crazy Horse Composite Squadron was all ready for the big day but much to our dismay our wreaths got lost in transit. Fortunately, we were able to locate seven wreaths for the ceremony and it went beautifully. Better late than never, we finally received our shipment of wreaths on 13 December. The squadron, the Hot Springs American Legion and people from the Custer and Hot Springs communities helped to place the wreaths at the Hot Springs National Cemetery. In the photo, taken by Lt. V. Bierwirth, C/Amn Antony Dillon, C/MSgt Thomas Dillon, and C/CMSgt Jason Parry salute honor our fallen veterans.



Figure-70 - Crazy Horse Composite Squadron Wreaths Across America

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

No. Title

1. SDWG Electronic Newsletter - Skychaser - January 2014
2. SDWG Electronic Newsletter - Skychaser - February 2014
3. SDWG Electronic Newsletter - Skychaser - March 2014
4. SDWG Electronic Newsletter - Skychaser - April 2014
5. SDWG Electronic Newsletter - Skychaser - May 2014
6. SDWG Electronic Newsletter - Skychaser - June 2014
7. SDWG Electronic Newsletter - Skychaser - July 2014
8. SDWG Electronic Newsletter - Skychaser - August 2014
9. SDWG Electronic Newsletter - Skychaser - September 2014
10. SDWG Electronic Newsletter - Skychaser - October 2014
11. SDWG Electronic Newsletter - Skychaser - November 2014
12. SDWG Electronic Newsletter - Skychaser - December 2014
13. South Dakota Wing Roundup #1 - Winter 2014
14. South Dakota Wing Roundup #2 - Summer 2014
15. South Dakota Wing Roundup #3 - Fall 2014



“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for January 2014

Official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force - Citizens Serving Communities: Above and Beyond

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WING TIPS

HOT NEWS: U.S. HOUSE BILL H.R.3708 - GENERAL AVIATION PILOT PROTECTION ACT WOULD ELIMINATE THE REQUIREMENT FOR A MEDICAL EXAM FOR GENERAL AVIATION PILOTS.

The bill would replace the compulsory FAA Third Class medical exam with the requirement that a general aviation pilot simply possess a valid driver's license as proof of health. It would also limit pilots to flying with no more than five passengers, not above 14,000 feet and at no more than 250 knots, in aircraft that have a maximum takeoff weight of 6,000 lbs. Other conditions in the bill limit flights to visual flight rules (VFR) and to flights within the United States. Compensation for flights would also be prohibited. The bill gives the FAA 180 days from the date the bill is enacted to adopt the changes. Contact Rep. Kristi Noem and urge her to support H.R.-3708.

- **SAFE IS BETTER THAN SORRY.** SDWG held a Safety Day on 22 January. By regulation an annual Safety Day is to be held in all active units sometime during the months of January, February or March to focus on improving safety knowledge and attitudes. This required day is focused entirely on safety subjects applicable to the unit. Safety Day education to meet this requirement may take place at a regularly scheduled unit meeting providing the academic content is devoted to safety.

- **SPIDERTRACKS.** On 16 January, Col. Seten, Lt. Col. Larson and Lt. Schmid of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron met with Mr. Jerry Lee a representative of the company that manufactures the Spidertracks real-time satellite tracking system to discuss SDWG's deployment of the system and high degree of success with fielding. While in town from Florida (just in time for a blizzard), Mr. Lee shared the company's direction along with some helpful hints on use of the tracker. Those steps will become part of the aircrew user training soon.

- **TOP TWO SDWG LEADERS IN ACTION.** Despite the arctic blast on 23 January, Col. Seten and Lt. Col. Larson travelled to Pierre on a variety of liaison missions. They attended the quarterly meeting of the Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD), a coalition of the major national voluntary organizations in the U.S. that have made disaster-related work a priority. During the meeting, they briefed VOAD members

on CAP missions and capabilities. Lt. Col. Larson commented that this was primarily to show-the-flag and to touch base with organizations that CAP works with in disaster recovery.

Following the VOAD meeting, they met with Major General Tim Reisch, State Adjutant General, to discuss recent CAP state missions and future CAP capabilities. While there, they also met with Assistant Director Steve Harding and members of the National Guard budget staff, thanking them for their support! The last stop of the day was a meeting with newly appointed State Director of Homeland Security Mr. Steve Pluta. He was briefed on CAP "Homeland Skies" capabilities and presented with a new initiative to support advanced capabilities.

Among the other awareness missions undertaken during the 23 January trip was groundwork for the upcoming "CAP Day" activities planned Thursday, 20 Feb at the state Capitol. All SDWG members are invited to the event, which will run from 1400-1600 Central Time. The day will focus on legislative interaction and on-going support for SDWG! Last year's session was highly successful, with record member participation and a visit by and photo session with Governor Dugaard. Also planned for 20 February is a proclamation to be signed by the governor designating 20 February as CAP Day throughout the state.

- **FIRST SEARCH AND RESCUE EXERCISE OF 2014.** Over 70 SDWG members held the first training session of the year on Saturday, 11 January with a state-wide search and rescue exercise (SAREX). This "Split SAREX" took place in the West River area with an incident command post at Rushmore Composite Squadron and in the East River area with an incident command post at Sioux Falls Composite Squadron.

The overall purpose of the activity was threefold: to train mission base staff in organizing and controlling an emergency services mission, to train mission aircrews in the techniques of aerial observation and photography, and to train ground teams in the techniques and skills needed for search and rescue.

The East River portion of the Split SAREX was held at Sioux Falls Composite Squadron HQ. Col. John Seten served as the Incident Commander supported by a mission base staff. The search and rescue scenarios played involved air and ground searches for private aircraft overdue at their destinations and a scenario for a mission from the state Office of Emergency Management to survey and photograph ice conditions along Split Rock Creek in Palisades State Park near Garretson, SD. Two aircraft and two ground search teams took part.

The West River portion of the Split SAREX was held at the Rushmore Composite Squadron HQ in Rapid City. Maj. Craig Goodrich served as the Incident Commander supported by a mission base staff. They played a complex scenario involving two missing persons (a mentally unstable male out on bond on drug charges and his girlfriend), abandoned vehicles, a break-in at a remote cabin, and a stolen private aircraft with only one person on board. At the notional request from the Lawrence County Sheriff's Office a search was conducted in western South Dakota for the female missing person and the stolen aircraft. Three aircraft and two ground search teams took part. Kudos to the West River scenarist for an unusual and interesting scenario.



EAST RIVER SAREX MISSION BRIEFING



GROUND TEAM W/HAND-HELD RDF

- The January-March edition of CAP Volunteer is out. One of the front cover feature articles is our Winter Storm Atlas recovery efforts. The magazine is online at www.capvolunteernow.com/cap_volunteer/
- The Jan-Mar online edition of CAP Vector - a quarterly news and information tool designed to "get the word out" on CAP initiatives, events and policies is at: www.capmembers.com/cap_national_hq/capvector/
- **SAFETY SPECIALTY TRACK UPDATE** - As a result of increased capabilities of the CAP Learning Management System the prerequisites for the Safety Specialty Track tests have been updated to reflect the need to take the appropriate test while working through the specialty track. To take the Safety Specialty Track Senior test (Senior Lesson and Exam: Safety), you must have obtained the Technician rating in the Safety Specialty Track and it must be annotated in eServices. The same prerequisite is required to take the Safety Specialty Track Master test, you must have obtained Senior rating and it must be annotated in eServices. The Safety Technician Specialty Track test can be taken as long as the Introduction to Safety course has been completed.

STAFF NOTES



WING COMMANDER

Col. John Seten, CAP

- Congratulations to Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron in Spearfish for earning the Quality Cadet Unit Award for 2012-2013. Great Job!
- I'd like to send a very special thank you to Capt. Jerry Foy for disposing of numerous items that have been pending turn in for many years to include four vehicles. Great job to Jerry and those that helped him this past weekend.



WING VICE COMMANDER

Lt. Col. Richard Larson, CAP

Civil Air Patrol in South Dakota has proven its utility and value to community, state and nation over the years. It's amazing to see the ways CAP contributes to the betterment of society. Examples of flight related missions include assistance to the Department of Defense and Federal Aviation Agency to determine the impact of wind generator farms, aerial flood surveys for FEMA and state emergency management, completing west river damage assessments for state government, missing persons searches, ensuring safety of flight along low level military training routes, providing target aircraft for air defense intercept missions, homeland security missions over large special events and tracking wildlife during conservation projects.

Non-flying missions in the past include providing base support for Ellsworth AFB's 28th Bomb Wing and the SDANG's 114th Fighter Wing, assisting at airshows, marching in parades, promoting highway safety, working with Veterans organizations, helping with community events such as ZooBoo, Riverboat Days, Arts Festivals, Festival of Lights, and Veterans March, including interoperable communications and/or cybersecurity training.

The missions and events listed above are on top of the demands of meeting the dynamic requirements of CAP members' training and certification.

When Colonel Seten and I meet with others to tell the South Dakota CAP story, we are told that our enthusiasm shows. We are both quick to say that it is our member's performance of duty that makes us proud.

Our high-tech crystal ball says that in the near future CAP members will be operating enhanced and advanced technology, have more air and ground missions, and work even closer with law enforcement, first responders, emergency management personnel and government officials at the local, state and federal level in joint training, emergency services education and real-world response.

Having been in CAP for over 30 years in 3 different wings I knew that South Dakota CAP was good, but am constantly amazed by what we are achieving! Let's keep challenging ourselves to continue training, making contributions and racking up achievements and successes. We've made a critical difference on a lot of fronts... millions of dollars saved, increased Homeland Security and National Defense and just plain doing what's right by being leaders in the community. I am proud of each of you and pleased to be a part of our dynamic team!



WING DIRECTOR OF LOGISTICS

Capt. Jerry Foy, CAP

- I wish to express my sincere thanks to the crew who helped me retire about 65 items, including vehicles, computers and peripherals, microwaves, a television, outmoded GPS equipment, an overhead projector and a number of pieces of office automation equipment. It took a lot of processing to get the items ready for disposal at the Defense Logistics Agency's Disposition Services at Ellsworth AFB. For several days I, 1st Lt. Rachel Kuecker, 1st Christina Voll, C/SSgt Travis, C/SSgt Levi Woodard, C/MSgt Joseph Voll and Mr. Anthony Voll worked to get the items ready. My thanks to all the squadrons who helped prepare for this "retirement party", plus we were able to reassign needed items and discovered a "lost" item. Round 2 coming up next month. The end result? Lots more space at Wing Headquarters and a simplified inventory at the end of the year.



SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-058, BROOKINGS)



THE THIRD TIME'S THE CYBER-CHARM - The cadet cybersecurity team of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron is hoping the third time's the charm as they head into the national finals of "CyberPatriot-VI," the Air Force Association national high school cyber-defense competition to be held on 26 March in Gaylord, MD.

For the Big Sioux cybersecurity team, it's their third straight finals. The SDWG cadets finished first in the 2013 Cisco Networking event at the national competition and won

the competition's inaugural cyber-forensics phase in 2012. Going into the finals, the Big Sioux cybersecurity team is in second place in the All Service Division and fifth in the Cisco Networking Challenge. Winning teams in the championship receive scholarships and prizes from CyberPatriot sponsors.

The members of this year's Big Sioux cyber-security team, led by Cadet Captain Joshua Klosterman are Cadet Master Sergeant Chris Dinnel, Cadet Master Sergeant Laura Rudnik, Cadet Airman Basic Josiah Jorenby and Cadet Airman Zebadiah Nelson. The team is coached by Cadet Second Lieutenant Tyler Gross and mentored by First Lieutenant Shannon Hofer.

During the three preliminary rounds the Big Sioux team faced realistic computer network threats at their home location. They had six hours to seek out weaknesses in simulated online networks and work to defend those networks from threat scenarios. A Cisco networking challenge was also a part of the competition. The team was scored according to how quickly and effectively they established and maintained secure networks.

The "All Service Division" is comprised of CAP Cadets and Naval Sea Cadets, as well as Junior ROTC units from all four military services. CAP teams accounted for 360 of the 864 teams in the All Service Division. CAP has three of 14 finalist slots in the All Service category for the second consecutive year. Marine Corps JROTC has three teams, Army, Air Force and Navy JROTCs and the Naval Sea Cadets have two teams each.

The CyberPatriot competition has two divisions; All Service and Open. Between the two divisions a record 1,537 teams from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Canada, as well as U.S. Department of Defense Dependent Schools in Japan, South Korea and Germany registered to compete in competition that began on 15 November 2013.

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)

(Items and photos submitted by: 1st Lt. K. Bierwirth)

• **RECRUITMENT, RECRUITMENT, RECRUITMENT** has been the squadron's theme this month. We've been hitting the pavement and advertising!

- In December our squadron hosted a Paper & Pets Drive at our local food pantry.
- We put an announcement for the squadron on the web page of the Custer Chamber of Commerce.
- Cadets Parry and Stiffarm did a recruitment presentation to 78 Custer Middle School students
- We have put photos in the local newspaper.
- We handed out brochures to the middle school students.
- We put flyers in the county extension and 4-H newsletters for Custer and Fall River Counties.
- Last but not least C/TSgt Stiffarm is working on a squadron advert for the local television station.

So far the middle school presentation has resulted in one potential new member with more to follow.



LEFT PHOTO: CADETS PARRY AND STIFFARM AT CUSTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

RIGHT PHOTO: CAPT. MOAD, LT. DILLON, CADET PARRY, CAPT. GEETING AND CADET DILLON AT CUSTER FOOD PANTRY



1st Lt. Vicki Bierwirth has started the cadets on CAP's model rocketry program. If all goes as planned we hope to complete the instructional modules by spring. Everyone is looking forward to punching holes in the sky with their model rockets by mid-summer. There was a bit of grousing about being limited to low-power rocket motors, some were hoping to recreate a moon mission.

All of the participants are looking forward to adding the coveted CAP model rocketry badges to their uniform.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-063, SPEARFISH)

(Item submitted by: Capt. David Small, text and photos by Lt. Col. Hopewell)

• **IT WAS AN UN-ORDINARY THURSDAY EVENING** at the Spearfish airport on 9 January 2013, 1800 hours, the time for the squadron meeting. 1st Lt. Brandon Caneva, first to arrive at the Squadron building,



opened the door to the sound of cascading water. His immediate thought was, "This can't be good." Days before local temperatures of around zero prevailed in the area. Though we've had prolonged colder weather in the past with no problems, this time the constant wind and cold just overwhelmed the old plumbing. The pipes in and under the building had burst flooding the floor and crawl space. The prime suspect, it seems, was the failed thermostat for the heaters in the crawl space. Walking on the carpet produced visible mini-waves and splashes, and the sink under-counter area literally dammed up inches of water. Cadets and seniors immediately switched gears from the original plans and launched a team effort to remove thoroughly soaked (ruined) carpet from the wood under-flooring, and dismantled the water softened cabinet components. The impromptu recovery team consisted of seniors 1st Lt. Brandon Caneva, Capt. Gary Dettman, Lt. Col. Daryl Miles, Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese, Lt. Col. James Hopewell, and cadets C/Col William Small, C/SMSGT Connor Caneva, C/CMSGT Jared Doyle, C/SSgt Justin Harris, C/Amn Ryan Harris, C/Amn Peter Iverson. Dettman and DeWeese came back during the following week and replaced the cracked pipes and end-caps. Complete restoration of floors and cabinet is still forthcoming, and somewhat dependent on available funds.

PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-038, PIERRE)

(No items submitted for this issue)

RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-031, RAPID CITY)

(Items submitted are in the promotions section)

SIOUX FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-050, SIOUX FALLS)

(Items submitted are in the promotions section)

★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

Senior Member Promotion



Congratulations to Jim Schimelfening on Wing Staff on his promotion to the rank of First Lieutenant!

Cadet Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Silas Busch of Rushmore Composite Squadron on promotion to the rank of Cadet Captain and receipt of the Earhart Award!



Congratulations to Nicole Schneider of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on her promotion to the rank of Cadet First Lieutenant and on appointment to the cadet staff as Administrative officer.

Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Connor Caneva of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron and to Devon Brown of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Chief Master Sergeant and receipt of the Goddard Award!



Congratulations to Jason Parry of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron, Bradley Blansett of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron and Austin Cole of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Master Sergeant and receipt of the General Jimmy Doolittle Award!



Congratulations to Nicholas Nash of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron and Travis Tenold of Rushmore Composite Squadron on promotion to Cadet Master Sergeant and receipt of the Lindbergh Award!



Congratulations to Justin Harris of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron and to Kyle Stiffarm of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron and to Jaden Roblewsky of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Technical Sergeant and receipt of the Eddie Rickenbacker Award!



Congratulations to Keyvin Rauscher and Austin Rauscher of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron and Rushmore Composite Squadron's Anthony Pruitt, Joseph Jagodzinski, and Levi Woodard, on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



Cadet Airman Promotions



Congratulations to Thomas Dillon of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron and to Jaden Petersen of Big Sioux Composite Squadron their promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!



Congratulations to Julia Lair of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron and Daniella Petersen of Big Sioux Composite Squadron on promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman and receipt of the Gen. Curry Award!



★ ★ **KUDOS** ★ ★

★ Congratulations to SrA Jaden Peterson of Big Sioux Composite Squadron on his selection as squadron Assistant Public Affairs Officer!



“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for February 2014

Official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force - Citizens Serving Communities: Above and Beyond

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WING TIPS

HOT NEWS: GOV. PROCLAIMS 20 FEBRUARY CIVIL AIR PATROL DAY IN SOUTH DAKOTA.

Governor Dennis Daugaard issued a proclamation that designated 20 February as Civil Air Patrol Day in South Dakota. The proclamation commends SDWG for its multitude of missions and service to local communities, counties and the state. A copy of the proclamation is attached at the end of this newsletter.



GOV. DAUGAARD POSES WITH THE SDWG CONTINGENT AT THE STATE CAPITOL ON CIVIL AIR PATROL DAY

Photo by Lieutenant Vincent Brown, Sioux Falls Composite Squadron

HOT NEWS: WING LEGISLATIVE DAY AT STATE CAPITOL: On Thursday, 20 February members of the Wing from across the state converged on the state Capitol in Pierre to meet with legislators to thank them for their support. Over 40 members representing all six squadrons made the trip.

Col. Seten commented, “The purpose is to tell state policymakers the story of Civil Air Patrol in South Dakota, of the many volunteer hours spent on air and ground missions for local, county, tribal, state and federal government, law enforcement agencies and first responder organizations. We also want them to know of our cadet program that prepares young people not just for careers in the military, but to be good citizens.” He also said it is important that the public understands in a time of limited budgets, SDWG helps stretch the resources of the state and saves money by using well-trained, professional volunteers, volunteers who are held to the same level of performance and knowledge as their paid colleagues.

At the opening of their respective sessions the state Senate and House of Representatives recognized the many contributions of the South Dakota Wing with a prolonged standing ovation. In the Senate, Lieutenant Governor Matt Michels, who was presiding, specifically commended our involvement in the state’s flood response efforts in 2011 and our support in state recovery efforts from 2013’s Winter Storm Atlas.



Uniformed members of Wing served a snack in the lobbies off the Senate and House chambers for legislators, lobbyists, staff and others. Thanks to Lieutenant Rachel Kuecker the cupcakes all had CAP and SDWG insignia on them as did the water bottles on the table. Our personnel briefed senators and representatives on the latest enhancements and advancements to the Wing’s abilities and capabilities, answered questions and handed out copies of CAP’s annual financial report and SDWG’s legislative brochure.

A pleasant surprise for a small group of our members was an impromptu chat with U.S. Senator John Thune (R-SD) who was in the Capitol building for other business. He stopped his scheduled itinerary and spent several minutes shaking hands and talking with us. Later that afternoon Governor Dennis Daugaard met the nearly 40 members representing all six squadrons and the wing staff on the Grand Staircase of the Capitol Rotunda for a brief visit and group picture.



Wing Commander Col. John Seten and Lt. Col. Jim Hopewell of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron contributed to this item. The photo is by Lieutenant Vincent Brown of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron.

HOT NEWS: SDWG’S NEWEST PILOT: SDWG has a brand new pilot, C/Col William Small. On 6 February, William travelled from his home in Spearfish to Brookings in a CAP aircraft. In Brookings he met with FAA Designated Pilot Examiner John Barney who administered his practical and oral tests and the flight checkride for a private pilot’s license. William flew to Brookings as a student pilot but returned to Rapid City as “pilot-in-command” of the CAP aircraft. William was accompanied to Brookings by his chief flight instructor, Lt. Col. Gary Hewett, himself a Certified Flight Instructor (CFI), who spent many hours closely working with

William on the entire process. William also received training and advice from CAP members (and CFIs) 1st Lt. Marty Larson, Lt. Col. Jerry Densmore and Maj. Craig Goodrich. Col. Seten, Lt. Col. Hewett and Capt. D. Small contributed to this article.



PHOTO-1



PHOTO-2



PHOTO-3

PHOTO-1 - DESIGNATED PILOT EXAMINER JOHN BARNEY ADMINISTERS THE PRIVATE PILOT EXAMS TO WILLIAM

PHOTO-2 - DESIGNATED PILOT EXAMINER JOHN BARNEY CONGRATULATES WILLIAM AFTER HIS SUCCESSFUL CHECKRIDE

PHOTO-3 - LT. COL. GARY HEWETT, WILLIAM'S CHIEF FLYING INSTRUCTOR, CONGRATULATES SDWG'S NEWEST PRIVATE PILOT

Photo Credits: Photo-1 & Photo-2, Lt. Col. Gary Hewett; Photo-3, Paul Hanusa, FBO manager at Brookings Airport

- **SOUTH DAKOTA'S JOE FOSS HONORED IN ARIZONA.** South Dakota native Joe Foss has been honored in Arizona. Members and the color guard of Yuma Composite Squadron 508 of the Arizona Wing attended a ceremony in which the honor was bestowed. Foss was honored by having an aircraft hangar named for him at the dedication of the new Aviation Industrial Center within the Defense Contractor Complex at Yuma International Airport in Yuma, Arizona. The Aviation Industrial Center is a single structure housing a huge, 24,000 square foot hangar plus space for offices and engineering shops. The aviation center will fill a vital role in research and development of advanced technologies for the aerospace industry.

Joseph Jacob "Joe" Foss (1915-2003) was the leading fighter ace of the Marine Corps during World War II and a 1943 recipient of the Medal of Honor for his actions during the Guadalcanal campaign. In postwar years, he achieved fame as the founder of South Dakota's Air National Guard and eventually rose to the rank of General in the Air Guard, was the 20th Governor of South Dakota, two time President of the National Rifle Association, the first commissioner of the American Football League, and had a career as a television broadcaster as well.

Ironically, several years ago Foss gave Arizona aviation officials a bit of a black eye. At Phoenix's International Airport Joe, then 86, was detained by airport security when screening detected his Medal of Honor. The security officers, not recognizing what it was, wanted to confiscate and destroy the medal and the related memorabilia he was carrying. Publicity of the incident embarrassed Arizona aviation officials. In later years Joe and his wife lived in Scottsdale, AZ. He died on January 1, 2003 and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.



ARIZONA WING CAP LIEUTENANT JANET WATSON HOLDS A PIECE OF THE HANGAR DEDICATION BANNER

Photos by: CAP Lieutenant Mark Watson, used with permission of the Arizona Wing

- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS:** SDWG flew aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife on the 6th, 7th, 15th, 18th, 29th and 31st of January in support of the state Department of Game, Fish & Parks and South Dakota State University. The GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk. The SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. 12.5 flight hours were in support of GF&P and 11.1 flight hours were in support of SDSU for a total of 23.6 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. CAP Pilots for the January surveys were Lt. Col. Gary Hewett and Col. Mike Beason. In February similar missions were flown on the 11th, 12th, 25th & 26th for a total of 16.3 flying hours (10.3 for GF&P, 6.0 for SDSU). The pilot was Lt. Col. Hewett.

- **LOW, SLOW AND IN THE KNOW!** Submitted by Lt. Col. Larson. On 5 February, CAP officers Lt. Neil Schmid and Lt. Col. Larson met with two officers of the South Dakota Air National Guard, Lt. Col. Greg



Lair, Commander of the 175th Fighter Squadron (also a CAP pilot) and Capt. Jerry Grotjohn, 175th Fighter Squadron Airspace Manager, to brief them on the results of SDWG 2013 Low-Level Route Survey (LLRS) missions and to begin making plans for SDWG LLRS missions in 2014.

Each year since 1998 the South Dakota Air National Guard requests SDWG conduct LLRS of selected military training air routes and aerial Military Operations Areas (MOA). The purpose is to locate and identify uncharted obstructions such as antenna towers and noise sensitive areas (such as stock pens) that should be avoided by SDANG pilots.

When SDWG flies a LLRS, a command post is set up for C³ support for the aircraft. SDWG Lt. Col. Larson serves as Incident Commander. Lt. Schmid of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron is Project Officer and Lead Planner for LLRS missions. Wing Commander Col. Seten and Vice Commander Lt. Col. Larson thank all of the flight crews on the 2013 LLRS missions - 65 hours flying in direct support to military flight safety.

In the photo (L-R): - Lt. Col. Greg Lair, 175th Fighter Squadron Commander, SDANG; SMSgt (Lt. Col., CAP) Rick Larson, SDANG; Capt. Jerry Grotjohn, 175th Fighter Squadron, SDANG; Lt. Neil Schmid, CAP. Photo by SSgt Garret Gibbs, SDANG.



**CAP LIEUTENANT VINCENT BROWN
PHOTOGRAPHS POTENTIAL OBSTRUCTIONS
AND NOISE SENSITIVE AREAS**



**A CAP LOW-LEVEL ROUTE SURVEY FLIGHT IDENTIFIED RADIO ANTENNA TOWERS AT TURKEY RIDGE THAT COULD POSE A HAZARD
TO LOW FLYING MILITARY AIRCRAFT**

- **SDWG FORMING STATE LEGISLATIVE SQUADRON:** In February SDWG began planning for formation of a Legislative Squadron. A Legislative Squadron consists of state legislators, elected state officials, and their key staff members. Largely a ceremonial unit, there are no annual dues for members nor any duties or responsibilities. Members receive a membership certificate and membership card and are granted the honorary rank of Major. Members are authorized to fly in CAP aircraft, visit CAP unit meetings and attend CAP social events. The South Dakota Legislative Squadron will have the unit identifier NCR-SD-999. Letters of invitation were sent out to all 105 state legislators (70 Representatives and 35 Senators) and to selected state officials to include the Adjutant General. 43 states currently have Legislative Squadrons.

- **CAP COMMAND COUNCIL MEETS IN WASHINGTON:** From NHQ/PA [edited]: Before CAP's Command Council convenes in Washington, D.C., from 28 February – 1 March, for its annual winter meeting, it will gather on Capitol Hill for Legislative Day on Feb. 27 to brief Congress on the CAP's three primary missions of emergency services, aerospace education and cadet programs. Legislative Day will also feature induction of U.S. Senator Tom Harkin into CAP's Hall of Honor.

CAP will thank Harkin for his 30 years of CAP service during a congressional reception in the Senate's Russell Office Building. Harkin – a former Navy fighter pilot who commands CAP's Congressional Squadron – will become the 34th person inducted into the Hall of Honor in CAP's 72-year history, and only the second member of Congress, joining former New York Congressman and fellow CAP Col. Lester Wolff, inducted in 1985.

Since joining CAP in 1984, Harkin has been a rated CAP mission pilot and flown a number of training and actual missions, including counterdrug flights off the southern tip of Florida. He also has served as an adviser to CAP's national commanders, providing valuable insight on how CAP can best address some of its budget and operational challenges. Most recently, he introduced Congressional Gold Medal legislation honoring the service of CAP's founding members during World War II, which quickly passed the Senate under unanimous consent and with 83 cosponsors. CAP officers and cadets visiting Capitol Hill for Legislative Day will urge support for H.R. 755, the companion House bill to honor founding members of CAP with a Congressional Gold Medal for their volunteer service in conducting combat operations and other emergency missions during World War II.

CAP's Command Council will follow Legislative Day with its annual winter meeting, scheduled for Feb. 28 and March 1 in Washington. The Command Council consists of CAP's national commander, national vice commander, chief of staff, CAP's eight region commanders and its 52 wing commanders representing the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Its members serve as advisers to the national commander. South Dakota Wing Commander, Colonel John Seten, flew to Washington, DC to take part in the Legislative Day activity and participate in the meeting of the Command Council.

STAFF NOTES



WING COMMANDER

Col. John Seten, CAP

- Please join me in congratulating C/Maj Elizabeth Foy of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on her acceptance to the US Military Academy at West Point. I know she has worked very hard for this and I also know that she will serve the US Army well. Great job and well deserved!!

- Commanders and Wing Staff, thanks to all of you that were able to participate in our day at the SD State Capitol. It was a great success once again with a great turnout. Please thank your members on my behalf for

participating. Also, a special shout out to 2nd Lt Rachel Kuecker for all of the work she did in preparation. The cupcakes were AWESOME!!



WING HISTORIAN

Maj. Todd Epp

I met with Sonja Johnson, director of the SD National Guard Museum, Thursday morning before SD CAP Day at the capitol. We have a very good talk. She is very excited about working with the SDWG to put up an exhibit that shows how the CAP and the SDNG have worked and trained together on numerous missions and activities.

The deadline to assemble our exhibit, which would be up for three months or so to start (and could become permanent later), is the first part of August.

In conjunction with the exhibit, she would like for us to put on a short presentation about the CAP and the SDWG and how it has worked with the SDNG. She'd also like for some of our members who have been or are in the National Guard to also talk about their experiences.

The second presentation would be a day where we put on aerospace activities for a day in August during the museum's "summer camps." We would teach and have activities for 100-150 children total over the course of the day. Seems like a great opportunity to do some cadet recruiting and do a very public aerospace activity.

So, I am looking for photos, charts, objects, etc. on the following missions and activities we have done with the SDNG:

- Low Level Route Surveys
- Golden Coyote
- Radio training
- Use of and training in Air Guard's mobile command center
- MG Reich presenting C/Col. Small his Spaatz
- Encampments at Camp Rapid
- Flooding missions where the Air Guard assisted us (and we assisted them--I think we flew waders to Aberdeen for the Army Guard).
- Fire training by Air Guard firefighters.
- CPR training by Air Guard firefighters.
- Events at the Sioux Falls Air Guard base
- List of members who have been in both the SDNG and CAP. Gen. Mielke comes to mind as one of the more prominent members. Our CC and VC are either former or active SDNG, so that's also a big tie.

If I could get any materials you have on the above list (or anything I've missed) by 1 May 2014, that would be great. That will give me time to go through them, track down information, consult with Sonja,

organize the exhibit, and put together the 10 slide PowerPoint presentation that will kick off the event (and be shown with the exhibit.) I need to have the exhibit ready to go by late July.

Let me know if I have missed any joint activities.

I do have quite a few photos from 2010 to 2013, not so much pre-2009.

Also, I'll need someone to help me with the aerospace activities with the children. They'll generally be grade school aged.

I'm also tackling a more general exhibit about the SDWG at the Air and Space Museum at Ellsworth. More on that later.

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-058, BROOKINGS)

(Item submitted by C/SrA Jared Peterson)

- **CADET ORIENTATION RIDES:** On 22 February, Capt. Matt Meert flew a Cessna-182T from the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron to Brookings so the cadets there could participate in the flight orientation program. The day's first o-ride involved Cadet Salem Pleasants and C/SrA Zebadiah Nelson, the second C/Amn Graham Dinnel and C/CMSgt Chris Dinnel. Each o-ride consisted of two sorties; the first sortie was from Brookings Regional Airport to Madison Municipal Airport where they landed, switched the cadet at the controls and then flew the second sortie back to Brookings Regional Airport. The orientation ride program exposes the cadets to the excitement and adventure of aviation, teaches them general aerodynamic principles and familiarizes them with light aircraft and general aviation.

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)

(Item submitted by 2nd Lt. K. Bierwirth, photos by 2nd Lt. K. Bierwirth and Capt. Moad)



SQUADRON VISITATION: The squadron was pleased to have had a guest speaker in February. Retired Air Force MSgt Slade Heeb spoke to us about his Air Force service and discussed some of the tips and tricks on preparing for inspections. He also discussed his career in law enforcement, search and rescue and the fire department. We learned a lot of useful things from him and we hope he will return to speak with us again. In the photo, taken by Lt. K. Bierwirth, Retired USAF Master Sergeant Heeb talks with C/SrA Thomas Dillon, C/TSgt Kyle Stiffarm and C/SMSgt Parry.



RED COSS SHELTER TRAINING: Squadron Commander Capt. Sharon Moad and C/SMSgt Jason Parry assisted with shelter training that the American Red Cross conducted in Rapid City. In the photo, taken by Capt. Moad, poor, homeless C/SMSgt Jason Parry, victim of a major catastrophe checks in with an American Red Cross shelter worker in his quest to find shelter, sympathy and hopefully a snack.



MODEL ROCKETRY: On the squadron's Aerospace Education night we continued working on the CAP model rocketry program. All of the cadets scored 100% on their model rocketry written exam. They then began working on building the next model rocket in the series. The participants are enthusiastic and thoroughly enjoy the fun and excitement of the program. Kudos to Lt. V. Bierwirth for leading the program, and to the cadets for their commitment! In the photo by Capt. Moad, C/SrA Thomas Dillon, Lt. V. Bierwirth, C/SMSGT Jason Parry and C/TSgt Kyle Stiffarm get to work on their model rockets.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-063, SPEARFISH)

(Item and photo by submitted by Capt. D. Small and Capt. S. Small)

- **NEW CADET COMMANDER:** The mantle of cadet command was passed as C/Col William Small handed over the position of Cadet Commander to C/TSgt Justin Harris in a ceremony on 13 February.



C/Col Small, from Piedmont, finished his second tenure as Cadet Commander, in preparation for a busy next few months before entering college at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in pursuit of a degree in electrical engineering. Later this month, he is off to Washington, to participate in the National Cadet Advisory Council, a group of only ten Cadet Colonels in the country entitled to wear the gold shoulder braid. He then leaves D.C. to go to Wuhan, China, to a language school for 12 weeks to study Mandarin. This summer, C/Col Small will, in the role of Encampment Cadet Commander, oversee the Joint Dakota Encampment. Incoming Cadet Commander Justin Harris is from

Spearfish. He lettered in Cross Country at Spearfish High School, where he also has achieved Honor Roll status. Harris also is active in indoor soccer, and competes with the Black Hills Gold Swim Team.

Photo (L to R): Capt. David Small, Squadron Commander, Outgoing Cadet Commander C/Col William Small, Incoming Cadet Commander C/TSgt Justin Harris and Cadet Administrative NCO C/CMSgt Connor Caneva.

PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-038, PIERRE)

(No Items submitted for this issue)

RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-031, RAPID CITY)

(Items and photos submitted by Maj. Goodrich)

- **WELCOME ABOARD:** Our squadron has five new senior members: Jacqueline Klatte-Rolfe, Gregory Klatte, Kevin Tenold, Andrew Weathers and to Capt. Marty Larson who rejoined. We are pleased you have chosen to join (and rejoin) CAP and proud that you are serving in our squadron.

- **ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET:** The squadron's annual awards banquet was held on January 17th at Minerva's Restaurant. The theme of the night was "America Party" as we celebrated the ideals of America in several ways. Live music during the mixer was provided by 2nd Lt. Jack Jensen, 2nd Lt. Mike Morgan, and Major Craig Goodrich. The musicians added Maj. Goodrich's daughter, Olivia, to help sing a parody song by Tim Hawkins, "The Government Can". After the Colors were posted, they led the squadron in singing "America the Beautiful". At the end of the program, the squadron sang "God Bless the USA" as the colors were

retired. Special guests present were, Senator John Thune's West River Chief of Staff, Qusi Al-Haj, and SD Senator Phil Jensen and his family. Keynote speaker was Major "Durka" Davis, a B-1B bomber instructor pilot and mission commander. Durka presented a terrific briefing on recent B-1 participation in various theaters of war. He has flown 136 B-1 Combat Sorties and provided a lot of insight into how the B-1 is employed, and what daily life is like of a deployed B-1 crewman.

Squadron Annual Awards presented were:

Jefferson Award: 2nd Lt. Jack Jensen

The Jefferson Award is presented annually to the squadron Senior Member who has demonstrated the greatest vision and potential during their first year of membership.

Roosevelt Award: C/A1C Blake Berry

The Roosevelt Award is presented annually to the squadron Cadet who has demonstrated the greatest vision and potential during their first year of membership

Washington Award: Lt. Col. Randy Borton

The Washington Award is presented annually to the squadron Senior Member who has demonstrated the greatest dedication and leadership during the year.

Lincoln Award: C/MSgt Errol Kelly

The Lincoln Award is presented annually to the squadron Cadet who has demonstrated the greatest dedication and leadership during the year.



FIRST FLIGHT: Cadet Airman Malia Goodrich experienced her first CAP flight on Saturday, February 1. At the aircraft's controls was her dad, Maj. Craig Goodrich. It was a sunny, windy and very cold day, with the wind chill well below zero. They were very thankful that they were able to do the preflight checks in a heated hangar.

As can be seen in the photo they both enjoyed the orientation ride.

This photo will be on the cover of the next issue of South Dakota Wing Roundup magazine.

SIoux FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-050, SIOUX FALLS)

(Items by: Maj. Kipp, SM Lair, Capt. Schmid, Capt. Erickson, photos by Capt. Erickson, SM Lair)

- **SQUADRON LEADERSHIP SCHOOL/CORPORATE LEARNING COURSE:** On 8 February, a Squadron Leadership School (SLS) and a Corporate Learning Course (CLC) were conducted simultaneously at the squadron headquarters. Both courses were headed by Col. Mary Donley assisted by talented and experienced individuals who taught various course modules.



Both of these courses are components of the CAP's Senior Member Professional Development Program. SLS is a requirement for Level II and CLC a requirement for Level III.

Congratulations to all of the graduates!

In the photo Col. Donley explains the day's activities to participants.

- **ORIENTATION RIDES:** New senior member Greg Lair, a pilot, has allowed the squadron to revitalize its orientation ride program. We flew four of six planned o-rides on 15 February. This photo, taken by SM Lair, shows C/Amn Julia Lair and C/Amn Keith Warne after their sorties. Cadet Lair received a Certificate of First Flight. This was the second flight for Cadet Warne. Cadets Ivan and Kyle Kreger also flew on an o-ride. Unfortunately, the wind kicked up after landing from Sortie #4 and there wasn't time for a photo of Kregers in the rush to secure the aircraft.



Squadron Commander Capt. Erickson, pictured at right, wants to reinstate passing out orientation ride parent information brochures, presenting Orientation Flight Certificates to participants at the next squadron meeting, and news releases sent to local media.

In addition, Capt. Erickson has secured permission from Col. Seten to periodically fly aircraft to Brookings to conduct orientation rides for their cadets. Further SFCS o-ride sorties are planned for 22 February.

- **COLD WEATHER CAN'T HOLD US DOWN:** SFCS folks must be hardy stock! In late January the day started out a cool -18 F but warmed up to a balmy +10 F. At the weekly Thursday night meeting, the attendance was standing room only with 55 seniors, cadets and parents attending. The meeting covered the required annual safety briefing focusing on operational risk management. All in attendance were attentive to Capt. Erickson's presentation and, as always, learning tips on the elements of safety and risk avoidance were shared.



STANDING ROOM ONLY AT A JANUARY SIOUX FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON MEETING

- **COLOR GUARD CHANGE IN COMMAND:** On 6 February, C/CMSgt Devon Brown became the new Color Guard Commander. He follows in the command position previously held by C/Capt Brandon West. The color guard is guided by the expert leadership of senior members Maj. Justin Johnson, the Deputy Commander for Cadets, and by Capt. Karla West, Color Guard Coordinator and the designated "Mom" of the elite team. This year the team's goal is to continue to perform at community events and to provide honor guard and color guard training to help cadets, especially younger cadets, to develop leadership skills and build character. The current Color Guard is comprised of Cadets: C/CMSgt Devon Brown, C/SMSgt Austin Cole, C/TSgt Josiah Huntington, C/A1C Ivan Kreger, C/A1C Kyle Kreger, C/CMSgt Matias Kowang, C/MSgt Nicholas Nash, C/Amn Lathen Norling, C/TSgt Jaden Roblewsky, and C/Amn Keith Warne (not pictured).



★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

Senior Member Promotions



Congratulations to Bryan Sharp of Rushmore Composite Squadron on a well-deserved promotion to Major! He recently moved to North Dakota so will likely be transferring to NDWG soon.



Congratulations to Neil Schmid of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Captain!



Congratulations to Tyler Cavin of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of First Lieutenant, effective 9 December!

Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Cadet Chris Dinnel and Cadet Laura Rudnik of Big Sioux Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Chief Master Sergeant and receipt of the Goddard Award!



Congratulations to Cadet Austin Rauscher of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on his promotion to Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



Cadet Airman Promotions



Congratulations to Cadet Bronson Lynn and Cadet Zebadiah Nelson, both of Big Sioux Composite Squadron, and to Cadet Ryan Harris of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!



Congratulations to Cadet Steven Diaconu of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron and to Cadet Ayrika Dempsey of Big Sioux Composite squadron on promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the General Hap Arnold Award!



Congratulations to Cadet Tyler Eberle and Cadet Dalton Mann of Rushmore Composite Squadron and to Cadet Graham Dinnel and Cadet Josiah Jorenby of Big Sioux Composite Squadron on promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman and receipt of the General Curry Award!



★ ★ KUDOS ★ ★

AFA OUTSTANDING CIVIL AIR PATROL CADET OF THE YEAR: U.S. Air Force Maj James Smith, a B-1 instructor from Ellsworth AFB and President of the Rushmore Chapter of the Air Force Association, presented the Air Force Association's Outstanding Civil Air Patrol Cadet of the Year for the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron to C/Col William Small. This award comes with a special AFA ribbon bar and medal.



AFA CAP CADET OF THE YEAR RIBBON

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT INSTRUCTOR: In February, Capt. David Small presented Capt. Sylvia Small with the certificate appointing her a CAP Character Development Instructor (CDI). CDIs are part of the CAP



Chaplain Corps and are appointed to provide character development instruction in the cadet program under the direction of a chaplain designated by the wing chaplain. When no chaplain is assigned to a unit, the CDI works directly for the unit commander while maintaining liaison with the wing chaplain. Character Development Instructors are required to undergo a stringent vetting process by NHQ before acceptance as a CDI. When duly appointed, and upon completion of technician training, CDIs may wear the specialty badge.



TECHNICIAN LEVEL BADGE FOR A CDI. IN THE PHOTO CAPT. D. SMALL PRESENTS THE CDI CERTIFICATE TO CAPT. S. SMALL



Congratulations to C/CMSgt Camile Lynn of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron on earning the Neil Armstrong Award!



Congratulations to 1st Lt. Tyler Cavin of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his receipt of the Benjamin O' Davis Jr. Award! The award is presented to CAP members who complete Level II of the Senior Member Professional Development Program.



Congratulations to SM Jeffrey Dill and to SM Ronald Lenz of the Rushmore Composite Squadron on their receipt of the Membership Ribbon! The award is presented to members who complete Level I of the CAP Senior Member Professional Development Program.



Congratulations to 1st Lt. Christine Voll on her appointment as Rushmore Composite Squadron Supply Officer, Testing Officer and Bldg. Manager, to SM Jeffrey Dill on his appointment as squadron Safety Officer, and to SM Ronald Lenz on his appointment as squadron AE Officer and Asst. Bldg. Manager.



Congratulations to C/Capt Brandon West of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his appointment as Squadron Commander at the 2014 Joint Dakota Cadet Leadership Encampment.



Congratulations to C/CMSgt Jared Doyle of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on appointment as Cadet Stan/Eval Organizer at the 2014 Joint Dakota Cadet Leadership Encampment.

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota Office of the Governor

Whereas, One week prior to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December, 1941, Congress established the Civil Air Patrol to supplement our nation's military forces. South Dakotan men and women were among the first citizens to sign up for the Civil Air Patrol and its homeland security missions during World War II; and,

Whereas, In 1948, Congress permanently established the Civil Air Patrol as an auxiliary of the new United States Air Force; and,

Whereas, South Dakota's Civil Air Patrol currently includes 183 senior members and 101 cadets who serve in six squadrons throughout South Dakota. Civil Air Patrol squadrons in South Dakota and across the nation are highly regarded as a lifesaving volunteer service organization. In 2013, Civil Air Patrol is credited with saving 44 lives nationwide; and,

Whereas, In 2013, the South Dakota Civil Air Patrol provided extensive support to state and county Offices of Emergency Management in the recovery effort in the aftermath of Winter Storm Atlas. The South Dakota Civil Air Patrol Wing received the 2013 CAP Disaster Relief Award for the North Central Region for its outstanding disaster relief work; and,

Whereas, Through its cadet programs, the Civil Air Patrol provides training and inspiration to South Dakota's youth, offering service opportunities, training in emergency services techniques, as well as leadership development programs; and,

Whereas, As part of its education initiative, the Civil Air Patrol reaches out to educators and students through our nation's schools offering academic programs that emphasize science, technology, engineering, and math; and,

Whereas, We are grateful for the remarkable volunteers who make up South Dakota's Civil Air Patrol Wing and provide invaluable service to the state of South Dakota and its people:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 20, 2014, as

CIVIL AIR PATROL DAY

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fourth Day of February in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Fourteen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Patricia K. Miller Deputy

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State



“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for March 2014

Official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force - Citizens Serving Communities: Above and Beyond

Publishers: Wing Commander Colonel John Seten / Wing Vice Commander Lieutenant Colonel Richard Larson

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WING TIPS

- **HOTTEST NEWS:** RENAME THE ROUNDUP CONTEST. A wing-wide contest is underway for a new name and a new logo for the Wing magazine currently called the Roundup. The contest is open to all SDWG members. Each member may submit as many entries for a new name and/or logo as they wish. Any logo must not violate anyone's copyright. If a logo is copyrighted you must first obtain the copyright holder's written permission to use it. The logo must be free use, no royalties will be paid. Submit all entries to Maj. Kipp. The contest closes 8 April. Col. Seten, Lt. Col. Larson and Maj. Kipp will select the top three (maybe top five) name and logo candidates and they will be put out to a wing-wide vote in mid-April. The winning name and logo will be used for the next issue of the SDWG magazine which is currently set for publication in mid-May.
- **REDCAP:** Late in the afternoon of 10 March, the South Dakota Wing was placed on alert by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Tyndall AFB, Florida. The mission request, initiated by the Lawrence County Office of Emergency Management and the City of Spearfish Police Department, was to search for a person reported as missing in the Lookout Mountain area near Spearfish. Col. Mike Beason was the Incident Commander. A SDWG Cessna-182T took off from Spearfish Municipal Airport about 6:45pm piloted by Lt. Col. Rodney DeWeese with Capt. Bill Collister as observer. The search area encompassed Spearfish and from I-90 Exit 12 to Lookout Mountain. The aircraft flew for about 1.3 hours before darkness fell. The mission was suspended on 11 March due to severe weather in the search area. The mission resumed on 12 March with the City of Spearfish Police Department taking the lead supported by the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron who fielded a ground team to search the west side of Lookout Mountain. In addition, the Cessna-182T searched the Spearfish area from the air for an additional 1.5 hours. Lt. Col. DeWeese was again the Mission Pilot with Lt. Col. Jim Hopewell and Capt. Gary Schroeder as Mission Observers.
- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS:** SDWG flew aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife on the 10th, 12th and 25th of March in support of the state Department of Game, Fish & Parks and South Dakota State University. The GF&P surveyed deer, mountain goats, mountain lions, and elk. The SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. 7.8 flight hours were in support of GF&P and 7.7 flight hours were in support of SDSU for a total of 15.5 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. The CAP pilot for the March surveys was Lt. Col. Gary Hewett.

- **CAP JOINS SEARCH FOR MISSING MALAYSIAN AIRLINER:** “It’s a normal search and rescue mission,” Lt. Col. John Henderson said of Civil Air Patrol’s role in the search for missing Malaysia Airline Flight 370. Henderson, a radar analyst for the U.S. Air Force’s 84th Radar Evaluation Squadron (RADES) at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, is vice commander of CAP’s 10-member National Radar Analysis Team. “CAP brings different and unique tools to the table,” said Henderson, who is working 24/7 to narrow the search area based on the airline’s radar forensics information. “We have a lot of experience using different types of radar data, and our software tools are designed to use a lot of different formats of radar data. The goal is to utilize the radar data and radar signatures from the aircraft to determine its ultimate flight path,” he said. “Between the 84 RADES and Civil Air Patrol, we have a very robust capability to reduce radar data into usable and actionable forms, to include stitching together tracks from multiple radar systems,” said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Ian Kemp, commander of the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center. CAP performs 85 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the AFRCC. Henderson’s SAR track record is impressive. In 13 years, he has participated in more than 600 CAP radar analysis missions with “well over 150 finds” and about 45 lives saved, he said. In 2007 he helped narrow the search for Adam Flight 574, an Indonesian B-737 that went missing during a flight between Surabaya and Manado with 96 passengers and six crewmembers aboard. Recruited by the U.S. State Department for assistance after a massive effort to find the jet failed, Henderson was able to direct searchers within a mile of the crash site in 6,500 feet of water in the Makassar Strait. “Searchers were having a hard time picking up the black box pings, and the more time that goes by, the weaker it becomes,” he said, adding, “My analysis got ships in a very close position so they could pick up the pings.” “The black box is really key to knowing what happened, besides finding the wreckage,” he said. Radar analysis “can be extremely accurate,” Henderson said. In the CAP team’s case, “over 90 percent of the time we narrow the search area based on forensics information. We’ve come within 65 feet of where a crash occurred and sometimes miles. It depends on the radar environment.”

Source: www.capvolunteernow.com/todays-features/?cap_join_search_for_missing_malaysian airliner&show=news&newsID=18283

- **GARMIN G1000 TRAINING CLINIC IN RAPID CITY.** Submitted by SM Scott Kuznicki with input from Maj. Craig Goodrich: The South Dakota Wing is fortunate to have two Cessna-182 aircraft, both equipped with Garmin's leading-edge G1000 avionics packages. Aircrew familiarity with the operation of these systems is essential for use at their full potential and to ensure standards of safety and pilot proficiency continue to be met at the highest levels.



Over the weekend of 22-23 March, members from five squadrons from the South Dakota Wing attended a CAP-sponsored G1000 training clinic in Rapid City. At this event, 20 members spent 12 hours working with the G1000 in classroom and hands-on settings. CAP instructors taught the basics of G1000 operation, and covered flight operations for both VFR and IFR flight conditions. Instructor pilot candidates and current instructor pilots attended an instructor pilot module while pilots not seeking instructor status were able to enter the cockpit and operate actual G1000 consoles in the aircraft, with auxiliary power being provided to ensure the aircraft would remain mission-capable.

CAP members shared their knowledge in an interactive classroom environment, which included use of Garmin's G1000 simulator to conduct IFR procedures. Classroom instructors were 2nd Lt. Jeremy Swier, Maj. Craig Goodrich, Capt. Joe Oye, Lt. Col. Greg Lair, and Capt. Scott Giles. Although Lt. Col. Gary Hewett didn't do any platform instruction, he monitored the new G1000 instructors, and added commentary based on his extensive experience in the glass cockpit. He reminded participants of the importance having a backup plan when all the electronics fail. Col. Mike Beason capably assisted Lt. Col. Hewett with the hands-on portion of the training, which included a North Dakota Wing aircraft flown in by the CAP-USAF Liaison Region Assistant Director of Operations, Mr. Greg Maier. The closing question-and-answer session was informative and lively, focusing on instrument approach "gotchas" and the coordination of air traffic control between the towers and approach control serving Rapid City Regional Airport and Ellsworth Air Force Base.

The evening session on Saturday night was a "bring your own steak" event at Sioux Falls Composite Squadron Commander Erickson's home near Lead. Capt. Erickson and his wife graciously opened their home to hungry pilots and friends old and new gathered to enjoy a few hours of camaraderie and, of course, airplane stories.

Our pilots and instructors have gained new knowledge, refreshed their skills, and gained an understanding of how CAP expects the G1000 to be utilized for maximum mission performance. The Wing is providing a limited number of flights for members who attended, with an emphasis on current instructor currency, instructor candidate development and certification, and mission and transport pilot currency and development.

Major Goodrich, the Project Officer for the event said, "I think we all learned a lot, and we all had a good time. It was great to have so many pilots at this training. Building relationships with our CAP flying buddies and interactive discussion while learning made this into a fantastic weekend."

The Wing wishes to express gratitude to Maj. Goodrich for his dedication to planning and organizing this event. The attendees express sincere appreciation to Melissa Goodrich for preparing a delicious lunch on Saturday and to 2nd Lt. Jon "Jack" Jensen and SM Deb Jensen for the terrific bagels from Black Hills Bagels on Sunday morning. The Wing also thanks the Rapid City Fire Department for providing a meeting space at Fire Station 8 at the Rapid City Regional Airport.



PHOTOS BY MAJ. CRAIG GOODRICH

- Updated versions of CAPF-12, *Application for Senior Membership*, and CAPF-15, *Application for Cadet Membership* are available on eServices at www.capmembers.com/media/cms/F012_15378C3760422.pdf and www.capmembers.com/media/cms/F015_9C2337B9FC619.pdf respectively.

STAFF NOTES



WING VICE COMMANDER

Lt. Col. Richard Larson, CAP

During the evening of 17 March I was a phone-in guest on Sioux Falls radio station KSOO (1140 AM) on-air program View Point University to discuss how lost aircraft searches are conducted and its application to the Malaysia Airlines aircraft disappearance. Topics discussed encompassed: how a search like this is coordinated, how this search is complicated because of the number of nations involved, factors that complicate a search, the differences between primary and secondary radar, why the airliner's sharp turn to the southwest between Malaysia and Vietnam important, and finally how SDWG's train to find lost aircraft.



WING STANDARDIZATION/EVALUATION OFFICER

Maj. Craig Goodrich, CAP

Pilots are requested to NOT use the Spidertracks device on training flights unless they want to self-fund the use of the device at \$2.10 per hour used. This includes G-1000 training flights under the USAF Mission. Pilots should use the Spidertracks units for all actual search missions and missions paid by the State of SD, as well as SAREX's and the upcoming SAREVAL. Also, it is acceptable to use them briefly while on CAPF 5/91 check rides to ensure that all pilots understand how they are to be used.

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-058, BROOKINGS)

(Item by: Maj. Gengler and Maj. Kipp)



- **CYBERPATRIOT.** The cadet cybersecurity team of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron has returned to South Dakota after participating in the national finals of "CyberPatriot-VI," the Air Force Association's national high school cyber-defense competition held 26-29 March at the Gaylord National Harbor Hotel and Convention Center near Washington, D.C.

The members of this year's cyber-security team, led by Cadet Captain Joshua Klosterman were Cadet Master Sergeant Chris Dinnel, Cadet Master Sergeant Laura Rudnik, Cadet Airman Basic Josiah Jorenby and Cadet Airman Zebadiah Nelson. The team is coached by Cadet Second Lieutenant Tyler Gross and mentored by First Lieutenant Shannon Hofer.

Although the squadron's team did not place in the top three of the cybersecurity competition they did take first place in the scavenger hunt at the museums. It wasn't part of the original competition but the team members did win iPod Nanos for their success.

The Big Sioux team competed in the "All Service Division", comprised of CAP Cadets and Naval Sea Cadets, and Junior ROTC units from all four military services. CAP teams accounted for 360 of the 864 teams in the All Service Division. For the third consecutive year CAP had three of 14 finalist slots in the All Service category.

The South Dakota Wing and the Big Sioux Composite Squadron thank the "Dakotah Chapter" of the Air Force Association for their donation of \$300 to help defray the travel expenses of the squadron's cybersecurity team to the national competition.

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)

(Items by Lt K. Bierwirth, photos by Lt. K. Bierwirth and Katie Ping of Custer Chamber of Commerce)



COUNTER-NARCOTICS SEMINAR. On the 6th of March we had a very interesting seminar on marijuana given by an agent from the South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigations (name withheld). He answered a lot of questions and greatly clarified for us what is fact and what is fiction about the use of marijuana and its effects on the human body. The squadron expresses its appreciation the South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigations and their agent for his visit to our squadron. In the photo Lt. V. Bierwirth, C/MSgt Jason Parry, C/SSgt Thomas Dillon and C/1st Lt James Dillon.

- **MEET AND GREET AT THE CUSTER TRADE SHOW.** On the 8th of March we were asked to be greeters for the Custer Trade Show held at the Custer High School. We got to meet and greet a bunch of people, welcome them to the trade show and talk to them about Civil Air Patrol.



Best of all we got lucky! Two CAP Lieutenant Colonels will transfer to our squadron. Between the two of them we are gaining 70 years of Civil Air Patrol experience!

In the photo taken by taken by Ms. Katie Ping of the Custer Chamber of Commerce, Lt. Kris Bierwirth, Capt. Sharon Moad, C/MSgt Jason Parry, C/TSgt Kyle Parry and C/SSgt Thomas Dillon man the table at the entrance to the Custer Trade Show.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-063, SPEARFISH)

(Items by Lt. Col. Hopewell and Capt. Small, photos by Capt. Small)

- **SQUADRON RECEIVES GRANT FROM SPEARFISH OPTIMISTS CLUB.** As reported on 20 March in the “Local Scene” section of the Black Hills Pioneer newspaper, on 19 March the squadron was honored to receive a \$900 grant from the Spearfish Optimists Club. The grant will be used to fund the squadron’s Color Guard, aerospace education program and search and rescue operations. C/SSgt Justin Harris, squadron Cadet Commander, accepted the check on behalf of the squadron.

- **NEW OLD SENIOR MEMBER.** Welcome back aboard to Tom Irvin who has rejoined CAP after an absence of over 40 years. Tom was a CAP pilot back in the '60's but has not been active since. He recently retired to the Spearfish area and has joined our squadron. We welcome his knowledge and experience.

- **MODEL & REMOTE CONTROL AIRCRAFT STEM KIT.** We’re working on our second Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Kit. Each kit contains several hundred dollars’ worth of materials. In the case of our most recent kit, Model & Remote Controlled Aircraft, it contained a 6-foot wing-span remote controlled airplane and a flight simulator. All a squadron needs to do is request one of the five STEM Kits then spend six hours working with it and then you can get a new kit. These activities count toward the unit’s CAP Aerospace Excellence (AEX) Award.

The STEM Kit Program, managed by the USAF STEM Outreach Coordination Office in partnership with CAP and AFJROTC, provides financial support for STEM education. The program’s goal is to generate enthusiasm among cadets for STEM’s hands-on, inquiry-based learning. The conduit for the STEM Kit Program is CAP AE Officers. Five STEM Kits are available: Astronomy, Flight Simulator, Model & Remote Control Aircraft, Robotics, and Rocketry. Check out www.capmembers.com/aerospace_education/general/stemkit



LEFT PHOTO: C/MSGT CONNOR CANEVA (SEATED), C/TSGT JUSTIN HARRIS, C/SSGT KEYVIN RAUSCHER AND C/CAPT SAM HUNTINGTON (MEMBER OF SIOUX FALLS SQUADRON) EXAMINE THE FLIGHT SIMULATOR
RIGHT PHOTO: C/SSGT KEYVIN RAUSCHER AND C/SRA RYAN HARRIS WORK ON MODEL AIRCRAFT

PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-038, PIERRE)

(Item by Lt. Col. Gatje, photos by Lt. Col. Christensen)

- **THE SOUTH DAKOTA DISCOVERY CENTER AVIATION DAYS.** Members of the squadron recently participated in the Elk's Aviation Day sponsored by the Pierre Elk's Lodge and held at the Discovery Center. This gave an opportunity for area youth to develop an interest in the CAP Cadet Program. Students were invited to a free admission to the Discovery Center on a day that featured an "early release" for the local schools. Over 500 people attended. CAP members worked with young people interested in aviation. They built and flew pencil rockets and soda straw airplanes. Kids were encouraged to fly their creations from the Center's second floor balcony area toward targets on the first floor. Our participants included Lt. Col. Myra Christensen, 1st Lt. Roberta Vaughan, Lt. Col. Nancy McKenney and SM Ruth Carley.



LEFT PHOTO: CAP MEMBERS SM CARLEY (LEFT) AND LT. VAUGHAN WORK WITH AVIATION DAY ATTENDEES ON A PROJECT.
RIGHT PHOTO: LT. COL. MCKENNEY (RIGHT) HELPS A GIRL WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF HER SODA STRAW AIRPLANE.

RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-031, RAPID CITY)

(Item by Lt. Col. Hopewell and 1st Lt. Black)

- **SOUTH DAKOTA AIRPORTS CONFERENCE.** On Thursday, 27 March Maj. Craig Goodrich stood in for Col. Seten and Lt. Col. Larson who had planned to present a briefing at the South Dakota Department of Transportation Airport Conference, in Spearfish. They had planned to fly there for the presentation, but the weather didn't cooperate.

The state of the State of South Dakota aviation was the theme of the annual conference. Among the over 150 attendees were distinguished aeronautics luminaries, airport managers, numerous public sector leaders including the head of the state's Department of Public Safety, local and national FAA officials, the head of the National Business Aviation Association, and Air Force representatives.

Maj. Goodrich spoke about the history and organization of CAP, detailed many of the types of missions CAP does nationwide, reported on the recent history of SDWG missions here in South Dakota. He enumerated the benefits SDWG provides to communities and the state and highlighted the economic impact SDWG provides to airport businesses in South Dakota each year. For example: SDWG will purchase approximately \$60,000 of fuel in Fiscal year 2014; SDWG currently has contracts with aircraft maintenance facilities at Rapid City, Huron and Sioux Falls where annual inspections and scheduled major maintenance are done; oil changes and unscheduled maintenance are usually done by local Fixed Base Operators.

He also spoke on the CAP Cadet Program and its positive influence on young men and women where the South Dakota Wing's squadrons are based.

SIoux FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-050, SIoux FALLS)

(Items by: Capt. Schmid, photo by Cadet Fischer's parent)

• **THREE CADETS EARN "FIRST FLIGHT" CERTIFICATES.** A break in the cold and wind on the 8th of March gave three cadets the opportunity to earn their "First Flight" Certificates. Cadets Tristan Fischer, Christopher Schuppan and Cadet Airman Kyle Clement experienced their initial orientation flights. The three excited and enthusiastic cadets enjoyed their pilot duties, each flying the aircraft for one hour.



Cadets Clement and Fischer flew with pilot Capt. Neil Schmid. The first o-ride consisted of two sorties. The first, with Cadet Fischer at the controls, was from Sioux Falls Regional Airport to Madison Municipal Airport where they landed, switched the cadet at the controls, then Cadet Clement flew the aircraft back to Sioux Falls. The second o-ride was a single sortie with Lt. Col. Greg Lair as pilot with Cadet Schuppan at the controls. That flight was around the local Sioux Falls area.

The orientation ride program exposes the cadets to the excitement and adventure of aviation, teaches general aerodynamic principles and familiarizes them with light aircraft and general aviation. More flights for these and other qualified cadets are planned in the near future.

★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

Senior Member Promotions



Congratulations to Jeffrey Dill of Rushmore Composite Squadron and to Gregory Lair of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel! Both Lt. Col. Dill and Lt. Col. Lair received advanced appointment based on their prior military service.

Cadet Officer Promotion



Congratulations to Samuel Huntington of Big Sioux Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Captain and receipt of the Earhart Award!



Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Austin Cole of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Chief Master Sergeant and receipt of the Goddard Award!





Congratulations to Brianna Lynn of Big Sioux Composite Squadron and to Nicholas Nash of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Master Sergeant and receipt of the General Jimmy Doolittle Award!



Congratulations to Thomas Dillon of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron; to Jaden Petersen of Big Sioux Composite Squadron; and to Franklin Michael of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on promotion to the rank of Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



Cadet Airman Promotions



Congratulations to Ivan Kreger and to Kyle Kreger, both of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!



Congratulations to Peter Iverson of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron and to Julia Lair of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the General Hap Arnold Award!



Congratulations to Kyle Clement of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman and receipt of the General Curry Award!



★ ★ KUDOS ★ ★



Double congratulations to First Lieutenant Victoria Bierwirth of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron who earned “Technician” Level in Specialty Track – Aerospace Education Officer and “Technician” Level in Specialty Track – Logistics Officer in the Senior Member Professional Development Program.



Congratulations to C/1st Lt Sullivan Busch of Big Sioux Composite Squadron on his appointment as the squadron’s Cadet administrative Officer.



Congratulations to C/Maj Brandon West of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his appointment as the squadron’s Cadet Operations Officer.



Congratulations to Lt. Jamie Nowlin, Rushmore Composite Squadron’s Emergency Services Officer, who graduated from ICS-300, Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents class held during the week of 24 March in Rapid City and from ICS-400, Advanced ICS for Command and General Staff, Complex Incidents and MACS for Operational First Responders was held during the week of 31 March in Rapid City, SD. Both courses required a considerable commitment of time.

★ Congratulations to Capt. Gary Schroeder, Rushmore Composite Squadron's Squadron Maintenance and Assistant Operations Officer, who graduated from ICS-300, the Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents class held during the week of 24 March and from ICS-400, Advanced ICS for Command and General Staff, Complex Incidents and MACS for Operational First Responders was held during the week of 31 March in Rapid City, SD. Both courses required a considerable commitment of time.

★ Congratulations to C/A1C Blake Berry of Rushmore Composite Squadron on successful completion of the Leadership Chapter 3 test!

★ Congratulations to SM Gregory Klatte of Rushmore Composite Squadron on completing Level I of the CAP Senior Member Professional Development Program and the award of the Membership Ribbon!



★ Congratulations to Lt. Col. Jeff Dill of Rushmore Composite Squadron and to Lt. Col. Greg Lair of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on completing Level I of the CAP Senior Member Professional Development Program and the award of the Membership Ribbon! Although newcomers to CAP their advanced rank is derived from prior military service. This accounts for why a Lieutenant Colonel is just now completing Level I.



★ ★ TRIBUTE ★ ★



BRYN MAWR, Pa. — Referred to as the Father of Black Aviation, Chief Flight Instructor of the prestigious Tuskegee Airmen C. Alfred "Chief" Anderson, was immortalized on a stamp on 13 March.

"The Postal Service is proud to honor Charles Alfred "Chief" Anderson, a Black aviation pioneer who inspired, motivated and educated thousands of young people in aviation careers, including the famed Tuskegee Airmen of World War II," said U.S. Postal Service Judicial Officer William Campbell.

The Father of Black Aviation

"Chief" Anderson (1907-1996), traced his fascination with airplanes to his early childhood when he lived with his grandmother in the Shenandoah Valley near Staunton, VA. She was troubled by his habit of running off in search of planes.

After returning to his parents' home in Bryn Mawr, PA, Anderson pursued his dream of becoming a pilot. Since no flight schools would accept him as a student because of his race, he needed a plane of his own to learn how to fly. Incredibly, he was able to raise \$2,500 from supportive members of his community and bought a used plane. As Anderson later recalled, he learned to fly by reading books, getting some help from a few friendly white pilots, and, in his own words, "fooling around with" the plane. By 1929, he taught himself well enough, against all odds, to obtain a private pilot's license.

To help him qualify for an air transport, or commercial license, Anderson eventually found an instructor, the owner of a flying school near Philadelphia, who was able to refine his techniques and even persuade a federal

examiner to let Anderson take the commercial pilot's test. When Anderson secured the license in 1932, he was the only African-American in the nation qualified to serve as a flight instructor or to fly commercially.

The Charles Lindbergh of Black Aviation

Anderson was soon breaking flight records and inspiring other blacks to become pilots. In 1933, he and Albert E. Forsythe, an African-American physician and Tuskegee Institute alumnus, teamed up to become the first black pilots to complete a round-trip transcontinental flight. With that flight and their goodwill tour to the Caribbean in 1934, they sought to prove to the world the abilities and skills of black aviators. It was this flight that led to Anderson's being dubbed "The Charles Lindbergh of Black Aviation."

The Tuskegee Airmen

World War II gave Anderson the opening he needed to make a career in aviation. In 1939, as war erupted in Europe, Congress created the Civilian Pilot Training Program at the urging of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The program provided funding to train tens of thousands of young people who could be transitioned to military service in the event of war. A provision in the legislation permitted civilian flight training for blacks, a significant step toward the long-range goal of opening up the all-white Army Air Corps to black applicants.

Tuskegee Institute won a government contract to establish a Civilian Pilot Training Program and named Anderson chief flight instructor soon after hiring him in 1940. To those who learned their piloting skills in the program, he was affectionately known as "Chief."

Tuskegee's subsequent role in training the nation's first African-American military pilots began in January of 1941, the year leading up to the country's entry into World War II. The War Department announced plans to create a "Negro pursuit squadron" that would be trained at Tuskegee. In March, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, a champion of equal opportunity, came to the airfield Tuskegee was using for flight instruction and was introduced to Anderson. He later recalled her saying that everybody told her blacks couldn't fly. "I'm going up with you," she told him, "to find out for sure." After Anderson gave her an aerial tour of the campus and surrounding area, she announced, "Well, you can fly all right."

Soon after her flight, Roosevelt participated in the decision to finance the construction of Tuskegee Institute's own airfield, Moton Field, for a primary flying school. Under a contract with the War Department, the flying school would conduct the first phase of pilot training for black aviation cadets. Construction also began in the summer of 1941 on the Tuskegee Army Air Field, the military airfield where graduates of the primary flying school moved on to complete basic and advanced military flight training.

The War Department's plans for a black pursuit squadron took shape when ground crews of the 99th Pursuit Squadron (later renamed the 99th Fighter Squadron) began their training in March 1941. The first class of black pilots graduated in March 1942, and soon thereafter the nation's first all-black military aviation unit became fully manned. In 1943, the 99th of the U.S. Army Air Forces began combat operations in North Africa. Members— along with members of several other all-black flying units whose pilots began their training under Anderson at Moton Field — are now commonly known as the Tuskegee Airmen.

During the war, the Tuskegee Airmen escorted heavy bombers on hundreds of missions in the European theater. They flew thousands of sorties, destroyed more than a hundred German aircraft, and received scores of Distinguished Flying Crosses. Their professionalism and effectiveness in combat was a significant reason that in 1949 the newly independent U.S. Air Force became the nation's first armed service to desegregate.

For the rest of his life after the war, Anderson pursued his passion for flying and for teaching others to fly. In 1967, he helped organize Negro Airmen International to encourage interest in aviation among African-American youth. In 1996, the "father of black aviation," as Anderson is often called, died at his home in Tuskegee at age 89.



Susan Carol Larson, mother of Lt. Col. Rick Larson, passed away on Wednesday, 26 March 2014. The South Dakota Wing expresses its sincere condolences to the Larson family in their time of sorrow.





“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for April 2014

Official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force - Citizens Serving Communities: Above and Beyond

Publishers: Wing Commander Colonel John Seten / Wing Vice Commander Lieutenant Colonel Richard Larson

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WING TIPS



• **SDWG UNDERGOES BIENNIAL OPERATIONAL EVALUATION:** The South Dakota Wing took part in a weeklong graded mission readiness exercise from 21-26 April. Every two years a U.S. Air Force inspection team evaluates the Wing's effectiveness in responding to a variety of potential real-world incidents. Typical scenarios include searches for missing/crashed aircraft, missing persons, floods, and humanitarian aid. The evaluation culminated Saturday, 26 April, with a major exercise at the Sioux Falls Regional Airport / Joe Foss Field. Specially equipped Civil Air Patrol aircraft, vehicles and approximately 80 command staff, ground support and aircrew members gathered from across the state. The

Mission Base at the airport executed a broad spectrum of operations in response to training incidents submitted by the USAF Evaluation Team. Maj. Bruce Kipp, Wing Public Affairs Officer commented, “We train continuously in order to prepare for these real-world missions that affect peoples’ lives and impact the health and welfare of our communities. We are ready to respond in the event of an actual incident.”

The Wing received a rating of “Highly Successful” from the Air Force for its performance during its operations evaluation. Several staff sections received the coveted rating of “Excellent”. In addition, there was not a single “Finding”, an area which requires corrective action. Wing Commander, Col. John Seten, and Wing Vice Commander Lt. Col. Rick Larson, who was also the Incident Commander, praised the professionalism of the members, their ability to work together as a team, and their determination to see a mission through to its

successful conclusion. Col. Seten added “The rating of highly successful is a true testament to the hard work of our top notch, dedicated professional volunteers.”

The Wing expresses its gratitude to Landmark Aviation for the use of its facilities and also thanks the Sioux Empire Chapter of the American Red Cross for providing meals for the 80 plus people who took part in the activity. In addition, the Wing thanks the South Dakota Air National Guard’s 114th Fighter Wing for providing their Mobile Emergency Operations Center.

Our operational evaluation was well covered in local, state and national print and broadcast media. One standout was Lt. Col. Larson’s on-camera interview to a reporter from KSFY-TV.

Source: Larson interview www.ksfy.com/story/25393690/south-dakotas-civil-air-patrol-receives-highly-successful-evaluation

- **REDCAP:** In the early afternoon of 4 April, South Dakota Wing was placed on alert by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Tyndall AFB, Florida. The mission was to search for an Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) beacon reported active in the vicinity of Mitchell by several aircraft passing overhead. In addition, a USAF tanker aircraft was able to obtain a rough triangulation of the signal as well. CAP Incident Commander Lt. Col. Rick Larson notified the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron to start preparations to launch two aircraft and form a ground team to search for the ELT. However, prior to the aircraft taking off and ground team deploying, Lt. Col. Larson, using Google Earth was able to pinpoint the ELT in the vicinity of Letcher, about 20 miles northwest of Mitchell. It was determined that the signal was emanating from a crop-duster aircraft undergoing maintenance and the ELT was silenced. The mission was initially closed around 1445 local time. However, additional reports were received that ELT signals continued active, this time in an area south of Yankton. Two aircraft from the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron tracked the ELT signals to Hartington, Nebraska. One aircraft landed at Hartington Municipal Airport/Bud Becker Field where it was discovered that an individual working on his personal ELTs was unaware they had been triggered. These ELTs were silenced and the aircraft returned to base. The Cessna-172 was piloted by Capt. Matt Meert with Capt. Lauren Greenhoff as Mission Observer. The other aircraft, a Cessna-182, was piloted by Capt. Joe Oye with Capt. Jerry Gabert as Mission Observer and Capt. Karla West as Mission Scanner. In addition to the two aircraft, two ground search teams were dispatched from Sioux Falls Composite Squadron. However the ELTs were located shortly after the ground search teams departed so the teams were recalled to base. In all some 18 SDWG personnel were involved. The mission ended at 2050 local time.

- **REDCAP:** At 9:05pm on 19 April, the South Dakota Wing was placed on alert by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Tyndall AFB, Florida. The mission was to search for an Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) beacon that had been reported as active in the vicinity of Sioux Falls Regional Airport by aircraft passing overhead. The CAP Incident Commander, Maj. Craig Goodrich, of the Rushmore Composite Squadron in Rapid City, notified the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron to ready aircrews and a ground search team to search for the ELT using radio direction finding equipment. A Sioux Falls based CAP Cessna-182T piloted by Maj. Justin Johnson with Capt. Matt Meert as Mission Observer and direction finding equipment operator, and Lt. Jerald Hayden as Mission Scanner took off at Midnight and flew a route over a large portion of eastern South Dakota searching for the signal. The Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings was notified to prepare a ground search team and activate additional aircrews if needed.

At approximately 2:30am the CAP aircraft pinpointed the ELT as being located at a private airstrip southwest of Huron, SD. The Incident Commander called the owner of the airstrip who went out and turned off the beacon. As a precaution, the CAP aircraft continued to circle overhead until its equipment confirmed that the ELT had been silenced. The aircraft then returned to base, the mission had been successfully completed.



SPIDERTRACKS OF THE CAP AIRCRAFT SEARCHING FOR THE ELT REPORTED ACTIVE NEAR HURON, SD

- **REDCAP:** At around 3:00am on 28 April, the South Dakota Wing was notified by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Tyndall AFB, Florida that a private aircraft had been reported missing while en route from Texas to Gettysburg, SD. CAP Incident Commander, Maj. Craig Goodrich, of the Rushmore Composite Squadron in Rapid City, immediately notified key members of the Wing. He emphasized that the wing was on standby as no official mission tasking had been received. Wing members began to closely monitor the situation in the expectation of a mission. However, the wreckage of the small aircraft was discovered shortly thereafter in a wind farm near Huron, SD. Had there been a need for support, South Dakota Wing was poised to assist

- **2014 SOUTH DAKOTA WING CONFERENCE AND AWARDS BANQUET:** After the end of the CAP-USAF Operational Evaluation on Saturday, 26 April, participants swiftly changed into their dress uniforms to attend the 2014 Wing Conference and Awards Banquet at the beautiful Holiday Inn-City Centre in downtown Sioux Falls. Maj. Todd Epp was Master of Ceremonies and he kept the speeches and the awards presentations flowing smoothly. One of the highlights was the year-in-review slideshow which highlighted some of the more serious aspects of what SDWG does, but also included some of the lighter moments as well. Sunday, 27 April, was set aside for workshops and breakout sessions for the senior members on a variety of key aspects of Wing operations and administration. A special program had also been set up to keep the cadets active and engaged. It was a long and busy weekend for all the attendees but at the end the universal comment was that it had all been worthwhile, informative and instructive.

- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS:** SDWG flew aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife on the 10th, 11th, 18th and 21st of April in support of the state Department of Game, Fish & Parks and South Dakota State University. The GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk. SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. The surveys resulted in a total of 18.3 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. The CAP pilots for the April surveys were Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese on the 10th and 11th and Lt. Col. Gary Hewett on the 18th and 21st.

- **LIGHTSPEED NAMES 2014 GRANT FINALISTS:** On 2 April, the Civil Air Patrol was named as one of the 15 aviation charities selected as finalists in the Lightspeed Aviation Foundation's Pilot's Choice Awards program for 2014. The foundation distributes grants to aviation organizations dedicated to growing the pilot community or using aviation to serve others. Your vote determines the grant winners - the top 8 beneficiaries will receive a grant from \$2,000 to \$10,000 from the Lightspeed Aviation Foundation. CAP has received a

Lightspeed grant in each of the past four years. The 2013 grant benefited CAP's Aerospace Connections in Education program. To vote for CAP to receive a 2014 grant, go to:

www.lightspeedaviationfoundation.org/content.cfm/Voting/Get-to-know-the-2014-finalists/Civil-Air-Patrol.



SCALE MODEL CAP CESSNA-172: The Minicraft Model Company is offering a 1/48th scale Civil Air Patrol Cessna-172 plastic model kit. This highly detailed model aircraft kit features recessed panel lines, a detailed engine with mount, removable cowl panels, exquisite four-seat cockpit and cabin interior, and decals for two Civil Air Patrol aircraft. Based on an Internet survey, the average price for this model kit is \$25.

- **EXERCISE FALCON KEYNOTE 2014.** SDWG again provided support to the South Dakota Air National Guard, this time by participating as the target aircraft in SDANG Exercise Falcon Keynote 2014. The purpose of the exercise was to provide the 114th Fighter Wing's alert aircrews training in aerospace control alert intercept procedures, a function of its Homeland Security mission. A CAP Cessna-182T aircraft, based in Sioux Falls, acted as the target aircraft. The objective for the pilots of the F16s of the 175th Fighter Squadron was to hone the skills of being able to quickly and safely intercept and evaluate a slow moving aircraft that could pose a security risk or that may have inadvertently strayed into restricted airspace. SDWG is pleased and proud to provide this cost effective support to SDANG by providing target aircraft for them to practice air intercept techniques. CAP partners with the USAF helping to provide a total force approach to readiness and enhanced national security.



- **NEW NATIONAL COMMANDER SELECTED:** The Civil Air Patrol's Board of Governors has selected current National Vice Commander Brigadier General Joe Vazquez as the next national commander and chief executive officer. The change-of-command ceremony, and Vazquez's promotion to Major General, will be at CAP's National Conference in Las Vegas on 15 August. Gen. Vazquez has almost 40 years of CAP experience having started as a cadet in 1975.

STAFF NOTES



WING COMMANDER

Col. John Seten, CAP



If you haven't already, please join me in welcoming 1st Lt. Kris Bierwirth as the new commander of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron. Kris has been active with the squadron in Custer and has filled many roles within the squadron since 2007. I'm confident that Kris will do a great job with a great squadron.

Also please join me in thanking Capt. Sharon Moad for serving as commander of the Crazy Horse Squadron for the past four years. I'm sure we'll continue to see her helping out with DDR activities and many other activities within the Wing. With her years with the Red

Cross, CAP and in the fire service we trust that she will continue to share her wealth of knowledge with all of us. (Photo by Ashley Muhm)

- Please join me in welcoming Capt. Shannon Hofer as the new commander of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron. I look forward to working with him in the future. He will continue with his duties as the Director of IT for the wing as well.

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-058, BROOKINGS)

(No items submitted for this issue)

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)

(Items and photos submitted by 1st Lt. K Bierwirth and Capt. Moad)

- **MODEL ROCKETRY**: Squadron cadets built and successfully launched the two rockets required to pass Stage 2 in CAP's Model Rocketry Program. We launched the Alpha Estes Model Rocket and the Tomahawk Cruise Missile Model Rocket on April 26.



C/MSGT JASON PARRY



C/TSGT KYLE STIFFARM



C/SSGT THOMAS DILLON

- Lt. Victoria Bierwirth is taking part in a Hunting-101 course taught by the Rapid City Outdoor Campus West at the Rapid City Trap and Skeet Club to encourage hunting by women and girls. The program teaches the history of hunting and its importance to humankind, including survival and conservation, firearms safety, game-law, and hunting techniques. These classes lead up to hunting real game. "I know that after I've gone hunting it will definitely be like a 'hoorah I did it!' - type thing," Bierwirth commented.

Source: www.kotatv.com/story/25335783/children-first-female-students-learning-how-to-hunt

- 1st Lt. Kris Bierwirth recruited 3 new senior members to the squadron! Applications have been sent to NHQ and are awaiting approval.

- **CAP MEMBERS TRAIN WITH THE AMERICAN RED CROSS**: On Saturday, 19 April, Dave and Joyce Jefferies along with Capt. Sharon Moad attended a day of training for Government Liaison in an Emergency Operations Center at the Black Hills Area Chapter of Red Cross. This training is also useful for liaison function in CAP missions in an EOC. On April 21, Maj. Nancy McKinney, from Pierre Composite Squadron and Capt. Sharon Moad from Crazy Horse Composite Squadron left early for two days of training with the Red Cross in Sioux Falls at the Sioux Empire chapter. A total of 60 participants attended the training to learn how to integrate the incident command system into the Red Cross system for working in disaster situations. The four CAP

members have all spent many years with both organizations and have all worked many presidentially declared disasters as well as many CAP missions. Between the four there is more than 80 years of experience in Red Cross and over 100 years with CAP.

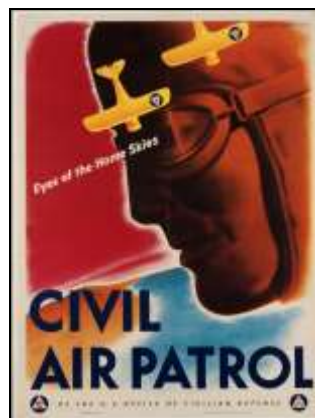


MAJ. MCKENNEY AND CAPT. MOAD



MAJ. MCKENNEY

- **RADIO DAZE**: C/SMSgt Jason Parry (Agent Hubert) and C/TSgt Kyle Stiffarm (Agent Peabody) took to the stage in the Custer High School production of "Radio Daze". They also used knowledge from their video production class about subliminal messages in advertising; placing a WWII era CAP poster center stage.



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-063, SPEARFISH)

(Item and photos submitted Capt. D. Small)

- **NEW RUG & NEW PAINT**: We've just refurbished the main area of our squadron headquarters with fresh paint and new carpet. Our headquarters started out as a worn Cold War surplus building. Now it is a worn Cold War surplus building with a bright new interior. Helping with the project were Lt. Col. DeWeese, Capt. Dettman, Capt. Collister and myself. We were able to persuade the cadets to help move the furniture.



BEFORE



AFTER

PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-038, PIERRE)

(No items submitted for this issue)

RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-031, RAPID CITY)

(No items submitted for this issue)

SIOUX FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-050, SIOUX FALLS)

(Submitted by Maj. Kipp and Lt. Brown, photos by Lt. Brown)



SOUTH DAKOTA AIR NATIONAL GUARD ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT: On the afternoon of 13 April the Easter Bunny visited Hangar 40 of the 114th Fighter Wing of the South Dakota Air National Guard for their annual Easter egg hunt. The Sioux Falls Composite Squadron has helped facilitate the event over the last several years. We had a good turnout of cadets and senior members to help the kids with games, hand out baskets, set up and tear down, help direct traffic and assist with parking. We even got a few of our own family members to volunteer, which didn't go un-noticed or unrewarded. It is a day of fun for the kids and families as well as for those who volunteer. Families were very appreciative of seeing us volunteer so that Guard members could enjoy being with their loved ones and comrades for the event. As always, we conducted ourselves in a professional manner and had a bit of fun doing it at the same time. (Photo: SrA Nick Boone, in costume; MSgt/First Sgt Shawn Greer and Ms. Pamela McDowell, Youth Programs Coordinator)



THE EVENT



THE SIOUX FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON CONTINGENT



SDANG FAMILIES LISTEN TO OPENING REMARKS



THE KIDS FILL THEIR BASKETS WITH EASTER EGGS

• **TELEVISION INTERVIEWS:** Capt. Neil Schmid gave an on-camera interview to KELO-TV on 28 April on how wind conditions can affect small aircraft in flight. At the time the media was abuzz with reporting about a small aircraft that crashed near Highmore, SD after colliding with a wind tower while flying in poor weather conditions. He gave a similar interview to KSFY-TV on 30 April. Both news items ran about two minutes long and gave excellent exposure to SDWG. Both news items are available online on the stations' websites.

KELO Source: <http://www.keloland.com/newsdetail.cfm/civil-air-patrol-grounded-day-of-plane-disappearance/?id=163717>

KSFY Source: <http://www.ksfy.com/story/25397493/pilot-gives-tips-on-safe-flying>

• **ETHNIC YOUTH DAY AT SIOUX FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON:** On 24 April, about 80 middle schools students from Axtell and Whittier visited the squadron as part of the Sioux Falls Multi-Cultural Center's Ethnic Youth Day. Squadron Commander, Capt. Jason Erickson, welcomed them then gave an impromptu talk about aerodynamics, flight planning, weight and balance and CAP's aerial search and rescue missions. After Capt. Erickson's talk the students went to the hangar where they examined a CAP aircraft and asked questions.



★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

Senior Member Promotion

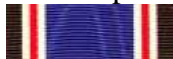


Congratulations to Kris Bierwirth of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron on her promotion to the rank of First Lieutenant!

Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Bradley Blansett and Isaac Rosby, both of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Chief Master Sergeant and receipt of the Goddard Award!



Congratulations to Jaden Roblewsky of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Master Sergeant and receipt of the Lindbergh Award!





Congratulations to Levi Woodard of the Rushmore Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Technical Sergeant and receipt of the Captain Eddie Rickenbacker Award!



Congratulations to Ryan Harris of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron and to Bronson Lynn of Big Sioux Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



Cadet Airman Promotion



Congratulations to Nicholas Kochutin of Rushmore Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman and receipt of the General Curry Award!



★ ★ KUDOS ★ ★



Congratulations to Capt. Sharon Moad received the DDR Member of the Year award!



Congratulations to C/SMSgt Jason Parry of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron who has been awarded Superior Honor Roll status with a grade point average of 3.70 or above at Custer High School!



Congratulations 1st Lt. Victoria Bierwirth of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron who received a Certificate of Appreciation for her dedication to CAP Aerospace program.



Congratulations to C/SMSgt Jason Parry and Cadet Mara Lemke who were on the Custer High School honor roll this past semester!



Congratulations 1st Lt. Christina Voll of Rushmore Composite Squadron who has been appointed as the squadron's Assistant Personnel Officer!



Congratulations to Capt. Sharon Moad who was named a "Woman of Outstanding Leadership" by the International Women's Leadership Association. She was honored for her contributions to family, career and community!



Congratulations to Lt. Kris Bierwirth who earned Technician Level in the Senior Member professional Development Program in Specialty track - Public Affairs Officer! In addition, Kris received the Achievement Award for her PAO duties for the squadron!



Congratulations SM Douglas Robbins, to SM Andrew Weathers and to SM Jacqueline Klatte-Rolf, all of the Rushmore Composite Squadron, who completed Level I (Foundations) of the Senior Member Professional Development Program and in recognition thereof received the Membership Ribbon!



★ ★ TRIBUTE ★ ★



• **COL. MARY FEIK CELEBRATES 90TH BIRTHDAY:** Civil Air Patrol Colonel Mary Feik celebrated her 90th birthday on 13 April in her hometown of Annapolis, MD.

She has been deeply involved with the Civil Air Patrol for over 30 years. For her work with the CAP from 1982 to 2004 she was awarded the CAP's Distinguished Service Award and presented with lifetime membership in CAP.

Feik is the recipient of an extensive list of achievements and awards including the coveted Federal Aviation Administration's Charles Taylor Master Mechanic Award and induction into the Women in Aviation Pioneer Hall of Fame. However, she considers her greatest honor to be the Civil Air Patrol cadet achievement created in her name in 2003.



CAP's Mary Feik Award Ribbon

Having worked on automobile engines from the age of 13, Feik became involved in aircraft maintenance and military aviation by the time she was 18. In 1942, she taught aircraft maintenance for the United States Army Air Corps, and would later be credited with over 5,000 hours as a flight engineer and pilot for military bombers, fighters, cargo and training aircraft.

Feik gives speeches to Civil Air Patrol cadets all over the country to address cadets every year. Her daughter, Lt. Col. Robin Vest, believes that her mother has travels about 30,000 miles annually to speak at Wing conferences and to present young recipients of the Mary Feik Achievement with signed certificates.

Source: www.capitalgazette.com/all_yours/your_news/my-time-civil-air-patrol-honors-pilot-s-th-birthday/article_3a64a33f-817e-5db4-bcf7-4185044cdcc3.html

★ ★ BLAST FROM THE PAST ★ ★

DID YOU KNOW SOUTH DAKOTA WING'S PHILIP COMPOSITE SQUADRON HAD A MOUNTED SEARCH AND RESCUE PATROL FROM 1992-2002



Members of the Philip Composite Squadron comprise South Dakota's first horse mounted Civil Air Patrol ground team shown here at the evaluated Search And Rescue exercise held June 13th at the Rapid City Regional Airport. ¹⁹⁹³

Members of the team shown mounted are (L to R) Mr. M. C. Johnson; 2LT Steve Millage, Team Leader; Cadet Stanley Reimann; and Mr. Rick Reimann. Standing are 1LT Marsha Sumpter, Squadron Commander, and 1LT Roberta Vaughan, Squadron Public Affairs Officer.

CAP Photo by Major Don Barbalace, Wing PAO

Photo courtesy of Capt. Marsha Sumpter, former commander of the Philip Composite Squadron (standing right front in photo)





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Publishers: Wing Commander Colonel John Seten / Wing Vice Commander Lieutenant Colonel Richard Larson
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Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SDWingCAP and on Twitter at [@SDWingCAP](https://twitter.com/SDWingCAP)

WING TIPS

HOT NEWS: It's official! On Friday, 30 May, President Obama signed into law S.309, the bill awarding a Congressional Gold Medal to Civil Air Patrol for its service during World War II. The Congressional Gold Medal marks the first major recognition CAP's members have received for their World War II service. Fewer than 100 of these early members are believed to be alive today.

The legislation recognizes the volunteer service of more than 120,000 men, women and teenagers who joined CAP immediately before and during the war. They helped protect the nation by warding off German U-boat attacks on American oil tankers bound for Allied nations.

CAP was founded Dec. 1, 1941, a week before the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the United States' entry into WWII. CAP organizations along the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts volunteered to carry out anti-submarine patrols. The coastal patrols began within three months, after the Petroleum Industry War Council requested protection for oil tankers falling prey to German subs. Over the next 15 months, CAP members used their own planes to watch for German subs. Those patrols accounted for 86,685 missions that involved 244,600 flight hours and over 24 million air miles. They sighted 173 submarines, are credited with dropping bombs that sank two subs, and located more than 300 survivors of U-boat attacks.



In the interior of the US, CAP's early members also took to the skies to patrol the nation's borders, tow targets for military training, watch for forest fires, conduct search and rescue missions, provide disaster relief, transport people and parts and conduct orientation flights for future pilots.

Overall the members of the Civil Air Patrol logged an estimated 750,000 hours of flight time during the war, Sixty-four members died in service during World War II.

More information about CAP's World War II service is available at www.capgoldmedal.com, the organization's Congressional Gold Medal website.



- **TORNADO DAMAGE SURVEY MISSION:** The Pennington County Office of Emergency Management requested SDWG conduct a time-sensitive mission to photograph the damage in the wake of the tornado that touched down in the Silver City area of the Black Hills on 27 May. The severe storm system in the Black Hills also produced hail up to the size of golf balls near Keystone, Hill City, the Pactola Reservoir and Sheridan Lake. The mission objective was to provide geo-tagged photographs of the extent of the tornado's damage path.

Responding to the mission request, a SDWG Cessna-182T took off from the Rapid City Regional Airport with Maj. Craig Goodrich and Lt. Col. Gary Hewett; both highly experienced Mission Pilots, on board. Their survey mission lasted about 1.5 hours, during which they took nearly 100 high resolution geo-tagged photos that were hand delivered to the Pennington EOM for analysis.

- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS:** SDWG flew aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife on the 5th, 9th, 14th, 19th, 20th, and 27th of May in support of the state's Department of Game, Fish & Parks and the South Dakota State University. GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. The surveys resulted in just over of 25 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. The CAP pilot for the May surveys was Lt. Col. Gary Hewett. He was accompanied by personnel from GF&P and SDSU.

- **COLOR GUARD COMPETITION:** The cadet color guards of the Rushmore and Big Sioux squadrons met in competition on 24 May in Pierre. Competition was tight as both color guards were within a few points of each other through all the competition's categories. The lead changed back and forth several times. In the end, Rushmore's color guard nosed out Big Sioux by one point! While Rushmore Composite Squadron won the competition overall, the Big Sioux Composite Squadron won all the awards: Highest Academic Award, Fleet Foot Male and Fleet Foot Female and Outstanding Cadet of the Competition. Of note was how the two units encouraged each other throughout the competition wishing each other good luck and then congratulating each other upon announcement of the winner. Best of all, both teams won honors at the competition.

The Big Sioux Composite Squadron's color guard was made up of: C/SrA Zebadiah Nelson, C/SSgt Jaden Petersen, C/Amn Daniella Petersen, C/SSgt Bronson Lynn, and C/CMSgt Camille Lynn (alternate). The Rushmore Composite Squadron's color guard was made up of: C/CMSgt Errol Kelly, C/MSgt Travis Tenold, C/SSgt Anthony Pruitt, and C/A1C Gunner Gray.



RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON'S COLOR GUARD READY TO PERFORM AND UNDERGOING JUDGING

The officer in charge of the competition was Lt. Col. Linda Buechler, wing Director of cadet Programs. The judges for the competition were: Col. Mary Donley (SD001), Lt. Col. Myra Christensen (SD038), C/Capt Silas Busch (SD031) and C/Capt Joshua Klosterman (SD058). SDWG thanks all of the judges in the competition. Senior Members also present were: Maj. Bruce Hack and 1st Lt. Ryan Jones (both from SD031), and 1st Lt. Jonathan Becker and Maj. Nick Gengler (both of SD058). All competition was held at the Community Bible Church, Pierre, SD, except for the Outdoor presentation which was held at the Georgia Morse Middle School across from Capitol Building.

- An ICS-300 course will be taught in Aberdeen on 20-21 June. There is a maximum of 30 students. For information contact Teresa Tople, SD OEM, [605-773-3231](tel:605-773-3231) or Teresa.Tople@state.sd.us. Register online at http://dps.sd.gov/emergency_services/emergency_management/training_schedule.aspx. The next ICS-300 and ICS-400 courses are tentatively set for September but no specific dates or locations as yet.

- On http://members.gocivilairpatrol.com/cadet_programs/?&show=entry&blogID=1279 is a post on the Cadet Blog, from 29 May that states; “Starting this week when a cadet’s promotion is approved in eServices their notification email will include a link to share the good news on Facebook. If a cadet choses to share the information a picture of their new grade insignia will post to their Wall. Friends and family who follow the link will be taken to a page that outlines the requirements the cadet completed to earn the achievement or milestone. Sharing is a great way for cadets to celebrate their accomplishments and increase the visibility of CAP. You can see the announcement and like us on the Cadet Programs Facebook at www.facebook.com/pages/CAP-Cadet-Programs/156363627727624.

- **MILITARILY SIGNIFICANT DATES IN JUNE:** The month of June has several dates that are significant in the military history of the United States. Over the years the names of some of the organizations have changed as our armed forces evolved, and historians have assigned names for certain events. What hasn’t changed is the spirit to defend the rights, liberties and freedoms we cherish. We honor those who went before and respect those who currently serve our great nation.

6 June 1944 – D-Day, Allied forces launch the assault to liberate France during World War II.

14 June 1775 – Funding of the Continental Army, forerunner of today’s U.S. Army.

20 June 1941 – Founding of the U.S. Army Air Corps, forerunner of the U.S. Air Force.

25 June 1950 – The Korean War began.

STAFF NOTES



WING DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Maj. Nick Gengler, CAP

- We will send two SDWG aircraft out of the state in June to be used at this summer’s National Cadet Special Activity’s Flight Academies. One aircraft will go to Nebraska and one aircraft will go to Illinois.

- In the near future we will be receiving updated radio-direction finding equipment, Incident Command status boards to be used for SAREXs and actual missions, and Incident Command vests for better identification of key personnel during SAREXs and actual missions.

Don’t forget the Split SAREX coming up on Saturday, 21 June!



WING DIRECTOR OF AEROSPACE EDUCATION

Maj. Rodney "Buck" DeWeese, CAP

- Planning is underway for an SDWG Aerospace Education event in conjunction with the South Dakota Air National Guard Museum's open house to be held 8-10 August in Pierre. Currently we envision a static display of a CAP C-182T aircraft, an open house display table, ground school for the "fly-a-teacher" (TOPS) program, radio-controlled model aircraft flights, model rocketry activity, cadet o-rides, and TOPS flights. It will be a big deal event and maximum turnout of seniors and cadets is requested.

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-058, BROOKINGS)

(Items submitted by Maj. Gengler)

- **MEMORIAL DAY PARADE:** The squadron's color guard took part in a local Memorial Day parade and celebration at the United Living Center in Brookings. The ceremony was held in conjunction with Brookings's VFW Post 2118 (George Dokken Post).

- **ADIOS:** The squadron bids farewell to three Cadet Lynns; C/CMSgt Camille, C/SMSgt Brianna, and C/SSgt Bronson. They moved to North Dakota and transferred to the Jamestown Composite Squadron (ND-031). We wish them the best.



shown) and C/Amn Zebadiah Nelson. This year's team was coached by then C/2nd Lt Tyler Gross and mentored by then 1st Lt. Shannon Hofer (not shown).

- **TOPS IN CAP CYBER-SECURITY:** We received official word from the Air Force Association as to our final standing in the recently held "CyberPatriot-VI", the national high school cyber-security competition. We came in 7th out of 864 teams in the All-Service Division but were 1st among the 320 CAP teams that took part. In recognition thereof, the AFA will present us with the CAP Champion Award in the near future. Members of the team, led by C/Capt Joshua Klosterman, were C/MSgt Chris Dinnel, C/MSgt Laura Rudnik, C/AB Josiah Jorenby (not

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)

(Items submitted by C/SMSgt Parry, Capt. Moad, Lt. Col. Christensen)

- **HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMAN IMPACT PROGRAM** by C/SMSgt Jason Parry: Freshman impact is a program consisting of many local emergency departments showing high school freshmen the effects of driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol. Throughout the day, the students participate in team building activities as well as driving a golf cart while wearing drunk goggles. They also experience a live demo of a rollover showing the effects of seat belts being buckled and unbuckled. After the students have lunch, they watch a short play in which a couple of friends go to a party where they get high and drunk, then leave the party to drive home. At the end of the play, the stage goes dark and a mock 911 call is played over the speakers about the friends that had left the party. Immediately after the call, the students go into the parking lot where a mock crash

has been set up. The crash consists of stunt doubles that have been made to look like they have realistic injuries, as well as two cars from real wrecks that are positioned to look like they had hit head on.

Once all the students get out to the crash, the police, ambulance and fire trucks show up and handle the crash like its real. The driver of the car gets arrested and a few people get taken away in the ambulances. One of the passengers was killed and is taken away in a body bag in the back of a local morgue's hearse. Afterwards, the students go back into the theater and watch a mock trial of the driver who killed and injured his friends. I took part in the play and was the one who provided the alcohol and drugs. Even though it was all fake I had a really hard time participating in the mock trial seeing my friend get sentenced to prison and the effects he has caused in the rest of the other actor's pretend lives. I think it is a great program and impacted many of the students there to make good choices as they grow up.

- **A CIRCLE IN LIFE**: Life in a family often completes a circle, so it was for former Crazy Horse cadet Tyler Stritar (Capt. Moad's grandson). On 30 May 30 2014, U.S. Air Force Master Sergeant Mathew Stritar was honored at a formal retirement presentation at Ellsworth AFB in Rapid City. MSgt Stritar served 20 years in the special security forces. He began his career at Ellsworth AFB and ended it there with many bases in between. His son, former cadet Stritar, begins his intended 20 years of service in the special security services at Ellsworth AFB, with his next base of assignment at Warren AFB in Cheyenne, WY. Both men are following the career of MSgt. Stritar's father who was a B-52 pilot who retired after 20 years of service at Ellsworth AFB.



- **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**: The squadron is off to a running start for the drive to sign up sponsors for the 2014 Wreaths Across America Program. Each Saturday during the summer there will be members offering sponsorship applications to visitors attending an outdoor flea market in Pringle, SD. So far the members have had a fair amount of success. Pouring rain sometimes put a damper on things (no pun intended) but they continue in the spirit of fortitude.



Lieutenant Colonels Doug and Frizel Westerlund staff the table at the Pringle, SD flea market seeking sponsorships for the 2014 Wing Wreaths Across America program

- **MOUNTAIN OPERATIONS TRAINING AND EDUCATION**: The squadron hosted a Mountain Operations Training and Education (MOTE) weekend on 9 through 11 May. The event wasn't a typical emergency services training. Rather it was a journey into the psychology of survival on searches, outdoor safety of self and others as well as those in need of help, and crime scene forensics. The weekend was deemed a success by the attendees.

Cadets started Friday night off with shelter building and protection from the incoming rain. After shelters were in place and the out of town trainees arrived the program was started off with a class on drug demand reduction class presented by Chief Deputy Sheriff Neal Moad from Charles Mix County.



Deputy Moad is also on the state drug task force team and is a certified lab technician for the state. Attendees were given a shorter version of the class on Meth house take downs given to electric companies, county employees, highway worker, fire departments and many other organizations. He gave a presentation on the danger posed by discarded drug paraphernalia, especially those from the preparation of meth. He stressed the importance of safety if finding these types of bottles while doing ditch clean up, walking trails, etc. He emphasized the high degree of caution that law enforcement officers use in gathering evidence at meth labs. All attendees had the opportunity to wear the hazmat suit.

On Saturday classes began with Capt. Sharon Moad giving a presentation on the anatomy and field dressing of an Army individual soldier's field ration, known as the MRE. Originally the class was to be taught by Army Specialist Ken Moad, but as he was on TDY at the time the class was taught by his mom. Some heavy MRE contents swapping went on after the class.

This was followed by a class on the psychology of survival and searching where a great deal of information was shared on not just CAP searches but many kinds of searchers. The why, when, how and what to do when a searcher becomes lost or separated from the group. The focus was on lifetime knowledge with an emphasis on safety in all aspects.



A wilderness first aid session with hands on training was led by two Red Cross members Ken Mickelson from Rapid City and Dave Ramberg of Spearfish. They brought lots of bandaging and splinting material and there was no lack of willing "victims". Participants learned about several different types of patient carries and got to practice them. After lunch, provided by the local Pizza Hut, participants enjoyed a presentation by Jake Ehlert of the state Department of Game, Fish and Parks. He spoke about the ten most deadly creatures in the world, the top three of which we could encounter on any search anywhere. There was some surprise that the mosquito is number one and a great deal of surprise that cows and horses are numbers two and three.



The participants were then offered the opportunity to check out a closed box which squadron commander Bierwirth already knew contained dead, frozen snakes. Nevertheless, that didn't stop her from jumping backwards about three feet when someone let out a yell.

A mid-afternoon session was held at the Custer County Search and Rescue building where a video on ice rescue was shown. This was followed by a tour of their facility and inspection of their equipment. Steve Baldwin, one of the SAR members, took his 24-hour pack apart to show the items. It was very similar to the 24-hour pack that CAP ground search teams carry.



After supper, Deputy Moad, who is also a firefighter, gave a class on how to use a magnetic compass to determine azimuth and reverse azimuth. He also taught about topographical maps, how to read them, and discussed how mapping is used in all kinds of life, including criminal investigations. All members present were given a National Geographic cloth map of our area donated by the U.S. Forestry Service. The evening ended with the use of \$4,000.00 a pair night vision monoculars and a camp fire with Mexican S-mores provided by Lt. Col. Christensen.

Sunday's classes were on the psychological aspects of different types of lost people. For example, the difference of a three year old to a thirty three year old or a hunter verses a hiker. This was followed by SD Highway Patrol Officer Shann showing a video on the effects of texting while driving. He also spoke about driving while under the influence of alcohol or narcotics, exactly what that means and the consequences that can result.

One of the comments made by C/TSgt Thomas Dillon summed it all up. "What I learned most was what Capt. Moad said, "STOP, THINK, OBSERVE, PLAN."

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-063, SPEARFISH)

(See entry in Cadet NCO Promotions Section)

PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-038, PIERRE)

(See entry in Cadet Airman Promotion Section)

RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-031, RAPID CITY)

(Items submitted by Maj. Goodrich and Capt. Black)

- **SQUADRON STAFF APPOINTMENTS**: SM Gregory Klatte has been appointed Supply Officer. SM Andrew Weathers has been appointed Assistant Safety Officer. SM Jacqueline Klatte-Rolfe has been appointed Assistant Transportation Officer. SM Doug Robbins has been appointed Drug Demand Reduction Officer.

- **NEW MEMBERS**: Welcome aboard to our new members: SM Roy V Weller, Cadet Caleb J Weller, and Cadet Isaak B Weller. We are pleased that you have decided to join Civil Air Patrol and proud that you have chosen our squadron for membership.

- **ICUT COMPLETION**: The following individuals have completed ICUT training: Lt. Col. Jeffrey Dill, Capt. Scott Giles, C/Amn Malia Goodrich, SM Greg Klatte, SM Jacqueline Klatte, SM Ronald Lenz, 2nd Lt. Jamie Nowlin, and C/MSgt Travis Tenold.

- **LEVEL I COMPLETION**: SM Andrew Weathers, SM Gregory Klatte, SM Jacqueline Klatte-Rolfe, and SM Douglas Robbin have completed Level I in the Senior Member Professional Development Program.

- **GES QUALIFICATION**: The following individuals completed the requirements for General Emergency Services qualification: 1st Lt. Christina Voll, 2nd Lt. Jamie Nowlin, C/A1C Blake Berry, C/Amn Dalton Mann, C/Amn Tyler Eberle, SM Andrew Weathers, SM Douglas Robbins, SM Gregory Klatte, and SM Jacqueline Klatte-Rolfe.

SHIOW FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-050, SHIOW FALLS)

(Items and photos submitted by Capt. West, Capt. Schmid)

- **BRANDON LOYALTY DAY PARADE**: The 46th Annual Brandon Loyalty Day parade was on 4 May. The squadron participated in the event with our color guard and a parade vehicle. A contingent of cadets and seniors helped provide crowd control.



(L-R): C/MSGT JADEN ROBLEWSKY, C/CMSGT DEVON BROWN, C/CMSGT AUSTIN COLE, C/TSgt JOSIAH HUNTINGTON

Other cadets participating were: C/SrA Ivan Kreger, C/SrA Kyle Kreger, C/Amn Kyle Clement, C/Amn Lathen Norling, C/Amn Dylan Purkapile, and Cadet Christopher Schuppan. Senior Members taking part were 2nd Lt. Dale Palmer, SM Melanie Schuppan, 1st Lt. Robert Hinkhouse, and 1st Lt. Karen Espeland

- **CADET ORIENTATION RIDE**: Saturday, May 10th, was a big day for C/Amn Dylan Purkapile - his very first ride in an airplane of any kind! Not only that, he successfully flew a Cessna-172 as part of the CAP's Orientation Flight program. According to Pilot and O-Flight Coordinator Lt. Col. Greg Lair, Dylan flew the aircraft from Sioux Falls Regional Airport to the Madison Municipal Airport. "He was very smooth on the controls, a natural pilot" said Lair. Dylan's goal is to learn to fly and join the military, possibly becoming a fighter pilot. His first flight was a memorable experience. At the other end of the spectrum, C/CMSgt Devon Brown experienced his fourth powered flight, part of the CAP's 10 flight program. Devon learned the use of instruments in flight as he piloted the Cessna-172 from Madison Municipal Airport to Sioux Falls Regional Airport. This flight completes 7 rides for Devon, including two prior glider flights. Devon's goal is to attend the Naval Academy and join the Navy, just like his Dad, CAP 1st Lt. Vinnie Brown. This summer Devon plans to further his flying experience by attending a CAP-sponsored powered flight academy in Nebraska.



(L-R) C/AMN DYLAN PURKAPILE, LT. COL. GREG LAIR, C/CMSGT DEVON BROWN

• **CADET ORIENTATION RIDE**: Saturday morning, 17 May, was a perfect time for Cadets Christopher Schuppan and Blake Hayden to complete their second powered CAP Orientation Flights. Both cadets completed the normal flight maneuver syllabus, which includes aircraft stability, attitude flying, trim controls, shallow banked turns, and load factors on the aircraft. Both cadet-pilots flew for an hour and maintained excellent aircraft control while touring the areas of Sioux Falls, Brookings and Lake Madison.



(L-R) C/TSGT BLAKE HAYDEN, C/AB CHRISTOPHER SCHUPPAN, CAPT. NEIL SCHMID

• Cadets and senior members of the squadron placed flags on the graves of military veterans at the Hills of Rest Memorial Park Cemetery & Mausoleum in Sioux Falls on Friday morning, 23 May.



- **IN SQUADRON MINI-SAREX:** What began as our fifth Thursday meeting briefing was interrupted by a “Training Alert”! The Minnehaha County Sheriff’s office advised us that a skydiver was overdue into the Sioux Falls airport. There were witness reports of an out-of-control decent by a skydiver south of Hartford. However, conflicting eyewitness reports as to the location required a slightly expanded search area.

Two aircrews and a ground team were briefed and dispatched. The aircraft were assigned distinct creeping line search patterns; our C-172 flew north-to-south from Colton to Oakleaf Airfield near Hartford while our C-182T flew south-to-north from 5 miles west of Marv Skie-Lincoln County Airport (Y14) in Tea north to Oakleaf Airfield. After takeoff and having entered their respective search grids, Mission Base advised that they had lost communications with the ground team. Lost communication procedures were a focus of this event along with first aid for the ground team and search and rescue pattern GPS programming and procedures for the aircrew.

During the final phase of the exercise our two aircraft were over Oakleaf Airfield/Hartford. The ground team, having located the subject, communicated using “lost communication procedures” with our C-172 which was at about 2,500 feet. Our C-182T was over the same area at some 3,500 feet; both aircraft were under the direction of Sioux Falls Approach Control.

From start to finish this training exercise took just over two hours from the “alert” to the end of the debriefing. Many “gung ho” trainees were very disappointed when they were excluded from participation on ground crew or aircrew due to lack of safety currency or not being in proper uniform. We definitely made the most of the available training resources, moved numerous participants further along in their search and rescue SQTRs and, I would safely conclude, all participants frankly “had a blast!”



★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

Senior Member Promotion



Congratulations to Morgan “Dani” Black of the Rushmore Composite Squadron on her promotion to the rank of Captain!

Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Nicholas Nash of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Chief Master Sergeant and receipt of the Goddard Award!





Congratulations to Justin Harris of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Master Sergeant and receipt of the Lindbergh Award!



Congratulations to Thomas Dillon of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Technical Sergeant and receipt of the Captain Eddie Rickenbacker Award!



Cadet Airman Promotion



Congratulations to John Hall of Pierre Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman and receipt of the General Curry Award!



★ ★ KUDOS ★ ★



Congratulations to Maj. Bruce Hack of Rushmore Composite Squadron who earned “Senior” Level in Specialty Track – Cadet Programs in the Senior Member Professional Development Program!



Congratulations to Maj. Bruce Kipp and Maj. Sharon Moad who completed the week-long FEMA ICS All-Hazards Position Specific Public Information Officer Course in Deadwood from 12-16 May.



Congratulations to C/2nd Lt Tyler Gross of Big Sioux Composite Squadron who met the requirements for Achievement 9 (Flight Commander) of the Command Phase of the Cadet Promotion Program!



Congratulations to C/Capt Joshua Klosterman of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron who has met the requirements for Achievement 12 (Leadership Officer), Executive Phase, Cadet Promotion Program!



Congratulations to the Rushmore Composite Squadron’s color guard for winning the recent SDWG color guard competition!



Congratulations to C/SSgt Bronson Lynn of Big Sioux Composite Squadron who achieved the highest score on the written knowledge test in the recent SDWG cadet color guard competition!



Congratulations to C/SSgt Jaden Petersen of Big Sioux Composite Squadron who won “Outstanding Cadet” in the recent SDWG cadet color guard competition!



Congratulations to C/Amn Daniella Petersen of Big Sioux Composite Squadron who won the award for “Fleet Foot” for females in the recent SDWG cadet color guard competition!



Congratulations to C/SrA Zebadiah Nelson of Big Sioux Composite Squadron who won the award for “Fleet Foot” for males in the recent SDWG cadet color guard competition!



Congratulations to Capt. Joshua Hall, Capt. Scott Giles, Maj. Craig Goodrich, and Lt. Col. Gary Hewett, all of the Rushmore Composite Squadron, who recently completed their CAP Form 5!



Congratulations to Lt. Col. Gary Hewett of the Rushmore Composite Squadron, who recently completed his CAP Form 91!



Congratulations to Capt. Joshua Hall of the Rushmore Composite Squadron on his recent appointment to Form 5 Check Pilot / Check Pilot Examiner!



Congratulations to 2nd Lt. Jack Jensen of Rushmore Composite Squadron who has qualified as a CAP Transport Mission Pilot!




Congratulations to C/CMSgt Laura Rudnik of Big Sioux Composite Squadron who met requirements for Achievement 8 of the Leadership Phase of the Cadet Promotion Program. In recognition thereof she received the Neil Armstrong Award!



★ ★ UNUSUAL CAP HERALDRY ★ ★

From time to time I come across unusual items of CAP heraldry I think would be of interest to our members. This “morale patch” for the Central New York Group of the New York Wing is one such item.

CIVIL AIR PATROL
CENTRAL NEW YORK GROUP
NER-NY-134
“Morale Patch” Heraldry



- A Duck may seem like a strange symbol to use on a Civil Air Patrol patch, but it actually has a several relevant meanings.
 - It is generally thought to be a symbol of freedom as the duck can walk on the earth and swim in the sea as humans do, but also has the ability to soar into the sky. CAP's Aerospace Education and Cadet Orientation Flight programs encourage members to “soar into the sky.”
 - It is a symbol of resourcefulness, which no doubt defines CAP members and the CNY Group in particular.
 - According to Native America mythology, It is a symbol that joins the sea and the sky, which is certainly applicable to many CAP Search and Rescue missions.
 - It is a symbol of happiness and fidelity; traits every CAP member should exude.
- The Cessna 182 silhouette symbolizes CAP's flying programs; Cadet Orientation flights Counter-Drug missions, and Disaster Relief/Emergency Services missions.
- The three bladed red “Propeller” symbolizes CAP's three missions as chartered by Congress; Aerospace Education, Emergency Services, and Cadet Programs.
- The color blue represents;
 - **Confidence:** Gained within by trying your best, progressing in the program, and carrying yourself in a manner which reflects positively on CAP and the U.S. Air Force.
 - **Inspiration:** To be the best people we can be and to excel in life and as CAP members.
 - **Intelligence:** The knowledge that you learn and share and the things each person can bring to the table within their unit.
 - **Loyalty:** Those who continue to be members of CAP and/or stay true to the values of the program.
 - **Sincerity:** To stay away from hypocrisy while leading, but instead be truthful and genuine.

PRIMARY DESIGNER:
C/CMSgt. Kassi Schultz
F.R. Sussey Composite Squadron
NER-NY-408



Former South Dakota Wing Commander Col. Lester W. Snyder, Jr. (Lt. Col. USAF (Ret)) of Rapid City, unexpectedly passed away Monday, May 12, at age 93 while working as a bailiff at the Pennington County Courthouse.

Col. Snyder joined CAP in 1970 and just four years later became the SD Wing Commander serving from May 1973 to June 1977. In addition to his time as Wing CC, he served five years as Wing historian; for four of those years, he received the National Historian of the Year award! He remained a CAP member to the end with 44 years of service.

Col. Snyder was born on May 8, 1921, in Chelsea, MA. He graduated from Howe High School in Billerica, MA in 1939. He served in the United States Army Air Force during World War II, flying combat missions as a navigator-bombardier off the island of Tinian in a B-29 Superfortress. For his service, he earned a Distinguished Flying Cross. Returning stateside, he graduated with a BS Cum Laude from the Louisiana Polytechnic Institute, in 1949. Duty called again in 1951 and he was summoned by the Air Force to the Korean Conflict, flying B-26 missions from near Pusan, South Korea.

Les returned to complete his MS in Industrial Administration from the Carnegie Institute of Technology in 1955. After numerous jobs in several different states, including working for the Eastman Kodak Company, Les and Nell arrived in Rapid City on August 14, 1959. He would then begin his 29-year run as a Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology. While at the School of Mines, he met and married Alice Davis in 1980. Their 29-year marriage ended with Alice's death in 2009. They traveled extensively seeking new adventures along the way. He retired from the School of Mines in 1985. Soon after, he became a bailiff at the Pennington County Courthouse, where he would serve for 27 years until his death.

His community involvement during his 55 years in Rapid City included membership in the First Congregational Church, the Air Force Reserve, the Boys Scouts, "The Group" Community Theater, Hardrocker Flying Club, Reserve Officers Association, and Civil Air Patrol. He was also a member of the Black Hills Veterans Writing Group, Elks Club Lodge 1187 and Historic Deadwood Lodge No. 7 AF&M as a Master Mason.

Col. Snyder flew 58 combat missions in WWII and Korea and accumulated over 2,000 private flying hours as a licensed pilot. He retired from the military as a Lieutenant Colonel, with 16 decorations. After 29 years in his vocation, he retired as a Professor Emeritus from South Dakota Tech. During his avocation as a Colonel in the Civil Air Patrol, he earned 22 decorations and awards. Lester W. Snyder Jr. was truly part of the Greatest Generation. For his efforts, he was rewarded with a spot on the Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. in 2010 to recognize his service to his country in WWII.

A memorial service was held on May 16. Inurnment with military honors rendered by Ellsworth Air Force Base and Rushmore VFW Post 1273 took place at Black Hills National Cemetery near Sturgis.





“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for June 2014

Official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force - Citizens Serving Communities: Above and Beyond

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WING TIPS



- **JUNE IS GENERAL AVIATION MONTH:** Governor Dugaard has proclaimed June as “General Aviation Appreciation” month in South Dakota. “General aviation plays a critical role with its citizens, businesses, farms and ranches, and is important to the state’s economy,” says Transportation Secretary Darin Bergquist. Given South Dakota’s geography this service is also important for providing access to medical services, disaster relief and aerial forest fighting. Aviation in South Dakota includes the airline industry, education institutions, aviation organizations and Ellsworth Air Force Base and a Civil Air Patrol Wing. South Dakota’s 70 public-use airports serve 2,262 certified pilots and 1,350 registered general aviation aircraft.

The official proclamation cites the importance of general aviation to businesses and communities in the state. In the photo Gov. Dugaard signs a proclamation declaring June as “General Aviation Appreciation” month in South Dakota” with the South Dakota Department of Transportation Aeronautics Commission. Pictured left to right are: Skip VanDerhule, Gov. Dugaard, Richard Pearson and Arnie Hauge. Commissioners not pictured are Chris Funk, Travis Lantis, Eric Odenbach, and Chad Hatch. Photo courtesy of SD Office of Air, Rail & Transit.

- **FAA APPROVES NEW EMERGENCY LOCATOR:** The FAA approved the ELT-1000, a new emergency locator transmitter for aviation. The unit can transmit GPS location data within 100 meters to search-and-rescue workers in less than a minute. The ELT-1000 is a value-priced upgrade to standard 121.5 MHz transmitters, which are no longer monitored by the Cospas-Sarsat system. The 406 MHz transmitter produces a much more accurate position, typically 3 kms as compared with 15-20 kms for 121.5 MHz ELTs. When coupled to the aircraft navigation system the ELT-1000's accuracy improves to approximately 100 meters.

Source: News of the Force: Monday, June 16, 2014 - Page 2 and <http://www.acrartex.com/products/catalog/elts-general-aviation/elt1000/>

- **BIG SIOUX FLOODING SURVEY MISSION:** A week of severe weather during the middle of the month produced torrential rain that resulted in wide-spread flooding in the East River area. The state Office of Emergency Management requested the Civil Air Patrol's South Dakota Wing conduct an aerial photographic survey on 19 June along the Big Sioux River from Sioux Falls to where it meets the Missouri River. Later in the day the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requested that the photos of the flooding be sent to them. What began as state tasking changed into a federal disaster relief mission. A Cessna-182T from the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron was assigned the mission. The aircraft departed Sioux Falls Regional Airport at approximately 9:00am for the 2 hour sortie. Capt. Neil Schmid served as the SDWG Incident Commander for the mission. The CAP aircrew consisted of Captain Matt Meert (Mission Pilot), Captain Karla West (Mission Scanner) and 1st Lieutenant. Robert Hinkhouse (Mission Observer). Over 250 photos were taken showing the flow and the spread of the flood waters and the damage caused. The photos were uploaded for federal and state emergency management officials' analysis and assessment. Photo used with permission of FEMA.



- **REDCAP:** Around 1800Z, while engaged in training activity, the aircrew staging base in Rapid City transitioned to a mission base for a real-world search and rescue mission. Butte County's Office of Emergency Management requested SDWG assistance in locating a woman missing since Wednesday. Around Noon Central Time on Saturday, 21 June, the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center in Florida activated the South Dakota Wing to assist in the search. According to media reports, the women and her friend were swept away by a flash flood late Tuesday. The subject's friend was found around Noon Wednesday and was hospitalized in Spearfish.

A Cessna-182T aircraft from Rushmore Composite Squadron (Rapid City) flew two sorties spending some 4.5 hours over the search area before diverting to Spearfish due to poor weather. The aircrew consisted of Capt. Josh Hall (Mission Pilot), Lt. Lisa Swanson (Mission Scanner) and Maj. John Hall (Mission Observer). Capt. Bill Collister, from Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, drove to the mission base in Rapid City and acted as a Mission Staff Assistant. Lt. Col. Dave Jeffries, Rushmore Composite Squadron (Rapid City) served as Communications Officer at the mission base.

Capt. David Small from Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron went to Butte County's Incident Command Post and served as Liaison Officer. The ICP, a Quonset hut, was about ½ mile east and 2 miles north of Hwy 85 in rolling hills near the junction with County Road 168. ICP photos with permission of Butte County Sheriff.



BUTTE COUNTY INCIDENT COMMAND POST FOR MISSING PERSON SEARCH



THIS TERRAIN VIEW HIGHLIGHTS THE REMOTENESS OF THE AREA AND DIFFICULTY OF THE SEARCH. THE MISSING PERSON; SHORT, SLENDER, WEARING DARK CLOTHING, AND EXPECTED TO BE LYING DOWN WAS BELIEVED SOMEWHERE WITHIN THE SEARCH AREA. IN THE TOP CENTER OF THE PHOTO A SDWG CESSNA-172 (158CP) FLIES OVER THE SEARCH AREA AT ABOUT 1,000 FEET AND TRAVELLING AT ABOUT 120 MPH.

- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS:** SDWG flew aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife on the 5th, 10th and 23rd of June in support of the Department of Game, Fish & Parks and the South Dakota State University. GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. The surveys resulted in 11.4 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. The CAP pilot for the flights on the 5th and 10th June surveys was Lt. Col. Gary Hewett. The pilot for the flight on the 23rd was Maj. Craig Goodrich. They were accompanied by Mr. Brandon Tycz from SDSU.

- **SOUTH DAKOTA WING STATEWIDE SEARCH AND RESCUE EXERCISE:** On Saturday, 21 June the South Dakota Wing held its second statewide search and rescue exercise (SAREX) for 2014. This “Split SAREX” took place in the East River area at the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron in Sioux Falls which served as a staging base for aircraft and ground search and rescue teams. In addition, the overall Incident Command Post was also at the squadron headquarters. Captain Neil Schmid, as the Incident Commander, assisted by a mission base staff, controlled the exercise across the state. In the West River area a staging base for several aircraft and aircrews was set up at the Rushmore Composite Squadron in Rapid City, and a staging base for vehicles and ground search team members was set up at Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron in Spearfish.

The search and rescue scenarios involved air and ground searches for two private aircraft overdue at their destinations, for an elderly fisherman missing in Newton Hills State Park, and for an aerial photo survey of flooding conditions near Lake Vermillion.

The overall purpose of the activity was threefold: to train mission base staff in organizing and controlling an emergency services mission, to train mission aircrews in the techniques of aerial observation and photography, and to train ground teams in the techniques and skills needed for search and rescue.



SAREX COMMAND STAFF: (L-R) SM MELANIE SCHUPPAN; COL. MARY DONLEY; CAPT. NEIL SCHMIDT; CHAP. (LT. COL.) GARY RAE; C/MAJ. ELIZABETH FOY; C/TSGT BLAKE HAYDEN (COL. DONLEY, LT. COL. RAE AND C/MAJ FOY ARE ON THE WING STAFF, THE OTHER THREE ARE WITH THE SIOUX FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON)

- **REMAINS OF PERSONNEL FROM 1952 CRASH RECOVERED:** The Pentagon announced on 18 June that Defense Department forensic scientists have identified the remains of 17 U.S. military personnel, including 12 airmen, who died in the crash of a C-124 transport aircraft in Alaska, west of Mount Gannett, in 1952. The C-124 went down on Nov. 22, 1952, while en route to Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, from McChord AFB, Wash. 11 crewmembers and 41 passengers were on board. In June 2012, the crash site was discovered and recovery operations began that same month. According to a DOD news release, their remains will be returned to their families for burial with full military honors. Future attempts to recover the still-missing personnel are possible.

Source: Air Force Magazine Online for Thursday, 19 June 2014.

- **SUPPORT TO SOUTH DAKOTA RED CROSS:** On 23 June, the Red Cross requested assistance at the shelter set up in Wessington Springs for those whose homes were damaged or destroyed by the recent tornado. Members of the SD Army National Guard and volunteers assisting in the clean-up also use the shelter. On the 26th Col. Mary Donley and Capt. Joseph Oye helped out. On the 27th Col. Donley and Maj. Todd Epp helped out. Previously helping at the shelter were Lt. Col. David and Maj. Joyce Jeffries and Maj. Nancy McKenney.



• **WESSINGTON SPRINGS TORNADO DAMAGE**

SURVEY: Also on 19 June, the South Dakota Office of Emergency Management and FEMA tasked SDWG to conduct an aerial photo survey over the path of the EF-2 tornado (127 mph winds) that struck Wessington Springs in Jerauld County on the 18th. Both organizations requested photos showing the entire town to see the path of destruction as well as close-up photos to see the damage. A Cessna-182T from the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron was assigned the mission. The aircraft departed Sioux Falls Regional Airport at approximately 2:45pm for sortie lasting about 2.5 hours. Special care and coordination had to be taken during the flight as South

Dakota National Guard aircraft were also active in the area. Wing Commander Col. Seten served as the SDWG point-of-contact for the mission. The CAP aircrew consisted of Captain Neil Schmid (Mission Pilot), Major Todd Epp (Mission Scanner) and 1st Lieutenant. Robert Hinkhouse (Mission Observer). The mission photos were uploaded for federal and state emergency management officials' analysis and assessment. According to the 20 June Argus Leader, at least 25 homes were left uninhabitable, three businesses were destroyed and seven businesses suffered severe damage. In the photo, Mission Observer Lt. Rob Hinkhouse and Mission Pilot Capt. Neil Schmidt, both of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, enter coordinates into the G1000 equipped "glass cockpit" Cessna-182T prior to flying a sortie for the state of South Dakota and FEMA to take photos of tornado damage in Wessington Springs. Photos used with permission of FEMA.



OVERVIEW OF THE PATH OF THE TORNADO THROUGH WESSINGTON SPRINGS (YELLOW BOX ADDED BY MAJ. KIPP)



CLOSE-UP VIEW OF THE DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE WESSINGTON SPRINGS TORNADO



Gen. Osmond Jay Ritland. During the Space and Missile Center's 60th Anniversary, space pioneers were recognized for their contributions to the U.S. space effort. In the photo, Air Force officials and dignitaries dedicated the Gen. Bernard A. Schriever Wall of Honor, shown here, and unveiled the wall's 2014 inductees during a ceremony at Los Angeles AFB, Calif., June 19, 2014. Air Force photo by Joe Juarez.

Source: Air Force Magazine Online for Thursday, 26 June 2014.

- SPACE WALL OF HONOR UNVEILED:** After 60 Years, the U.S. "Home of Space" unveiled the first names carved on the Space Wall of Honor and inducted the first class of space pioneers. Air Force officials and dignitaries dedicated the Gen. Bernard Schriever Wall of Honor at Los Angeles AFB, CA. On 19 June, Lt. Gen. Samuel Greaves, commander of the USAF Space and Missile Systems Center, along with Mr. Thomas Taverney, chairman of the Air Force Association's General Schriever Chapter, unveiled the wall. The 2014 inductees are: Karel Jan Bossart, rocket designer; Ivan Alexander Getting, instrumental in the creation of the Global Positioning System; retired Brig. Gen. William King; retired Col. Frederic C.E. Oder; Simon Ramo; and retired Maj. Gen. Osmond Jay Ritland. During the Space and Missile Center's 60th Anniversary, space pioneers were recognized for their contributions to the U.S. space effort. In the photo, Air Force officials and dignitaries dedicated the Gen. Bernard A. Schriever Wall of Honor, shown here, and unveiled the wall's 2014 inductees during a ceremony at Los Angeles AFB, Calif., June 19, 2014. Air Force photo by Joe Juarez.
- KEY NHQ APPOINTMENTS:** Col. Larry Myrick, special advisor to Maj. Gen. Carr, has been selected as the new national vice commander. He will assume the position and be promoted to CAP Brigadier General during the National Convention in Las Vegas in August. Middle East Region Commander Col. Larry Ragland has been selected as the new national chief of staff and CAP Lt. Col. Jayson Altieri of the North Carolina Wing,

an active-duty U.S. Army colonel and commander of the 110th Aviation Brigade at Fort Rucker, Alabama, has been selected as the new vice chairman of the CAP Board of Governors.



Col. Myrick



Col. Ragland



Lt. Col. Altieri

- **NEW CAP UNIFORM MANUAL:** CAPM 39-1, 26 Jun 14, *CAP Uniforms*, is posted on the publications page at: http://members.gocivilairpatrol.com/media/cms/M391_E6F33EAAEC28A.pdf. Questions concerning wear instructions should be directed to the Knowledgebase, <http://capnhq.custhelp.com>. Requests for changes to policy must be submitted through the chain of command to the National Uniform Committee. Col. Richard L. Griffith, chair of the National Uniform Committee can be reached at r.griffith@inwg.cap.gov. The OPR for this manual is Ms Susan Parker at sparker@capnhq.gov.

- **SPAATZ ASSOCIATION AEROSPACE LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIPS:** Applications for Aerospace Leadership Scholarships will be accepted from 1 August - 31 October 2014. \$2,500 flight scholarships are available to cadets who: are at least 15 years old; have earned the Mitchell award; have earned Solo wings in a powered aircraft; and have maintained at least a 3.0 GPA in high school. Four or more scholarships will be awarded at the 2015 TSA Mid-Winter Dinner in February 2015. Apply online at www.spaatz.org/.

- **REGIONAL GLIDER ACADEMY GRADUATION:** Graduation ceremonies at Mattoon, IL, June 2014. Certified Glider Flight Instructor 1st Lt. Marty Larson and Lt. Col. Gary Hewett attended two glider academies at Mattoon, in southeastern Illinois, from 14-27 June. The Illinois Wing sponsored a triple academy for hot air balloons, powered aircraft, and gliders; and Great Lakes Region sponsored a glider academy. 22 cadet student glider pilots attended the Johnson Flight Academy, and 16 cadet student glider pilots attended the Region Glider Academy. The overall syllabus for the academies was: Balloon (Familiarization with hot air balloon flight); Basic Glider (Introduction to gliders); Intermediate Glider (Additional maneuvers and solo flight); Advanced Glider (Advanced Maneuvers) and Powered Aircraft (basic powered flight). South Dakota Wing provided a tow plane used in both glider events. In the two weeks of training, CFIGs from several states used aerotows for launching gliders for a total of 771 flights.



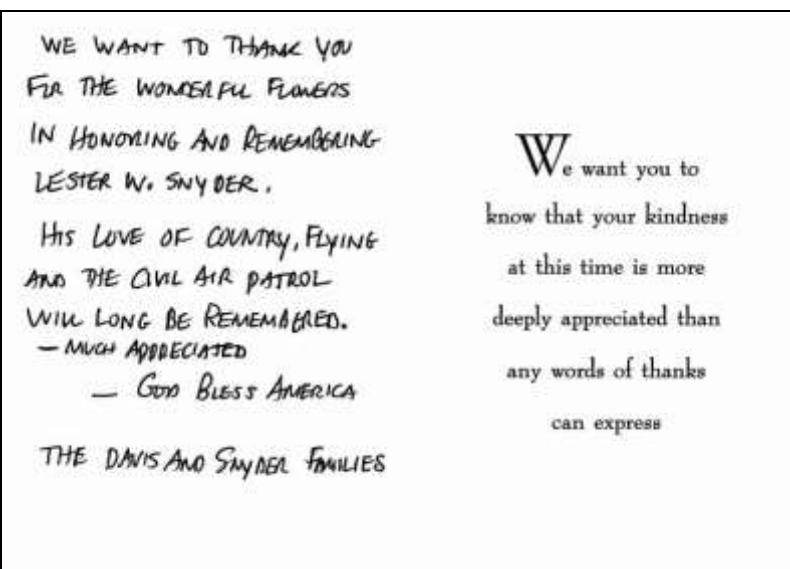
GRADUATION CEREMONY OF CADETS AT CIVIL AIR PATROL'S JOHNSON FLIGHT ACADEMY IN MATOON, IL.



LEFT: THE TRADITIONAL WATER BATH FOR GRADUATES

RIGHT CFGT LT. LARSON CLIPS THE "TAIL FEATHERS" OF SOLO STUDENT CADET ROBERT BOSH, A TRADITIONAL CEREMONY

• **COLONEL LES SNYDER MEMORIAL:** The daughter-in-law of former South Dakota Wing Commander Col. Lester W. Snyder, Jr. (Lt. Col. USAF (Ret)) who passed away 12 May stopped in the Wing office on 1 July to drop off numerous checks for a total of \$500.00 in memory of her father-in-law. The wing also received a \$25.00 donation as well. The wing will send an "informal" thank you to each contributor. This was a huge blessing to the wing in memory of a great man. Attached is also a "thank you note" from his family.



STAFF NOTES



WING COMMANDER

Col. John Seten, CAP

I am pleased to announce the following command and staff appointments. Please join me in congratulating:

- Capt. Bill Collister will be assuming command of the Lookout Mountain squadron this weekend
- Capt. Jerry Gabert is the new Wing Director of Communications
- Capt. Collister will be the Wing Assistant Director of Communications

I'd like to welcome Capt. Collister as commander of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron. I'm confident the squadron is in good hands. In addition, I'd like to thank Capt. Small for his years of dedication as squadron commander. The squadron is one of our most active in the wing and participates in nearly every activity that the wing has. The squadron has produced a Spaatz cadet under the command of Capt Small which is highly commendable and has received other well deserved awards in the past four few years. I expect many more good things to come in the future for the Lookout Mountain Squadron.

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-058, BROOKINGS)

(Items submitted by Capt. Hofer, photo by Maj. Gengler)



- **TOPS IN CAP CYBER-SECURITY**: Mr. Ron Mielke, President of the Air Force Association in South Dakota, and Mr. Ed Revell, President of AFA's Sioux Falls "Dacotah Chapter" presented the Civil Air Patrol Champion Award on 26 June, to the squadron's cyber-security team. Although we came in 7th out of 864 teams in the All-Service Division we were 1st of the 320 CAP teams that took part in CyberPatriot-VI, the national high school level cyber-security competition. Members of the team, led by C/Capt Joshua Klosterman, were C/MSgt Chris Dinnel, C/MSgt Laura Rudnik, C/AB Josiah Jorenby (not shown) and C/Amn Zebadiah Nelson. The team was coached by then C/2nd Lt Tyler Gross and mentored by then 1st Lt. Shannon Hofer (not shown).



(L TO R) MR. REVELL, C/SRA ZEBADIAH NELSON, C/CAPT JOSHUA KLOSTERMAN, C/CMSGT CHRIS DINNEL, COACH C/2ND LT TYLER GROSS, MR. MIELKE. PHOTO BY MAJ. GENGLER.

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)

(Items submitted by Capt. Moad and Lt. K. Bierwirth, photo submitted by Capt. Moad)



- **GROUND SEARCH ALERT**: On 6 June, the squadron was put on alert for possible assistance in the search for a juvenile missing in the Custer area. The squadron's ground search teams were on stand-by but, as it thankfully turned out, were not needed and were stood down.

The juvenile was located around 2300L. Agencies that took part in the search were the Custer County office of Emergency Management, Custer County Sheriff's Department, Custer County Search & Rescue, and the Pennington County Search & Rescue who had brought a tracker dog with them. The American Red Cross assisted with canteen services.

- **ALL PINE TREES LOOK ALIKE**: First Lieutenants Vicki and Kris Bierwirth and C/TSgt Thomas Dillon attended the ground search and rescue team training portion of the Split SAREXS that was held by Lt. Col. Miles in Spearfish. Boy-o-boy did we learn lots! It very educational and we got a taste of what a mission would be like and what happens if you mess up on your pace count...all the pine trees look the same!

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-063, SPEARFISH)

(Items submitted by Capt. David Small, Lt. Col. Hopewell, photos by Lt. Caneva, clip-art by Maj. Kipp)

- **CHANGE OF COMMAND**: Well over 30 CAP members and family attended the "Change of Command Party" where Capt. Bill Collister officially took the reins of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on Saturday, 28 June 2014. It was a casual event on a beautiful summer evening for friends and family to relax and enjoy friendship. Members from the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron, Rushmore Composite Squadron, Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron and the Air Force Reserve were present. Capt. Collister started his CAP career in the early 1970s as a cadet, advancing through the ranks into the cadet officer grades. He's been very active in South Dakota and Wyoming wings over the years and has a wealth of knowledge and experience in CAP. There is no question our vibrant, active squadron is in his capable hands. A brief ceremony occurred with Lt. Col. DeWeese presenting outgoing Commander, Capt David Small with an award of appreciation.



LEFT PHOTO: CAPT. SMALL (RIGHT) CONGRATULATES NEW SQUADRON COMMANDER CAPT. BILL COLLISTER
RIGHT PHOTO: CAPT. COLLISTER, CAPT. SMALL WITH AWARD, LT. COL. DEWEESE

- **MICKELSON TRAIL MARATHON**: Meandering through the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota along a former mining railroad is the Mickelson Trail. Every June, runners far and wide congregate for a marathon and half-marathon, with the finish line in Deadwood. On 1 June, cadets and seniors from the squadron staffed a drink and snack station along the trail, 20 miles into the marathon course (which also was the 8 mile mark of the half-marathon.) Cadets there were C/CMSgt Brad Blansett, C/CMSgt Connor Caneva, C/CMSgt Jared Doyle, C/MSgt Justin Harris, C/TSgt Ryan Harris, C/SSgt Austin Rouscher, and C/SSgt Keyvin Rouscher. Capt. Gary Dettman, Capt. Bill Collister, and 2nd Lt. Brandon Caneva, and SM Tom Irvin made up the seniors contingent.

Some of the time the marathoner runners came by the snack station in ones and twos but at other times, the CAP crew experienced frenetic periods of handing our sports beverages and snacks to packs of (by then) hot and tired "runner zombies."

Rain that day mitigated some of the sun's heat, but did not help the condition of the dirt service road that took the squadron van to the hydration station. Consequently, on the way out the van became mired in mud up to the running boards. Two private vehicles belonging to senior members had 4-wheel-drive and were able to navigate

the exit path. Alas, 4WD was probably not an available option when the van was purchased, as it had to remain there a couple of days more until extricated; heavy duty all-terrain tires notwithstanding.

Many expressions of thanks were given in passing by marathoners to the “uniformed agents of refreshment”. A couple of well-intended but exhausted competitors had particular gratitude as they ran out of every bit of energy they thought they had and asked the seniors present for a ride to the finish line. And so, the “Rescue” part of SAR took on some mildly unconventional facets for squadron members that day. You’ll recall that at last year’s Mickelson Trail Marathon squadron members were involved in a real-world aid and evacuation of a collapsed and seriously dehydrated runner.



with sustained velocities not much less than that (winds of 80 mph west of town in the same weather event).

The squadron was in the midst of its regular meeting while howling winds rattling the squadron building. At one point C/CMSgt Connor Caneva stepped out onto the small porch to peer at the angry skies and noticed an airplane on the ramp, 100 yards away, moving backwards toward a row of parked cars. The large, twin-engine Cessna-421 had been parked across the direction of the wind. The force of the wind weather-vaned the plane, putting the nose into the wind, and caused it to jump the wooden wheel chocks. The Cessna then began to be blown backward. The forecast apparently under-predicted the storm’s intensity, and the plane wasn’t tied down.

Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese and C/CMSgt Rosby joined Cadet Caneva in running over to the scene. Their combined efforts managed to bring the aircraft to a halt just short of the parked cars. They re-chocked the aircraft’s wheels so it would not move, then the cadets also took some clothesline type cord and braided into a strong rope to help secure the aircraft from the high wind. After the aircraft had been secured the airport manager was called and the information passed along.

Though the Cessna-421 “rescue” was unexpected and not associated with a specific mission as such, the CAP members were happy to participate in this “save,” that prevented airplane and automobile owners from untold inconveniences and expenses.

- **AIRCRAFT “SAVE” AT SPF:** Hurricanes don’t happen too often in the Black Hills. However, on Thursday evening, 26 June 2014, in Spearfish, SD, weather conditions rivaled the monsters usually seen at lower latitudes. A line of thunderstorms produced winds clocked at peak 69 mph at the Spearfish airport;

- **COLOR GUARD AT STATE GOP CONVENTION:** The squadron's color guard presented the colors at the banquet at the South Dakota GOP State Convention on 20 June. Held at Rapid City's Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn, the convention was attended by over 400 delegates and guests including Gov. Daugaard and Sen. Thune. The color guard was made up of C/2nd Lt Jared Doyle, C/CMSgt Connor Caneva, C/CMSgt Brad Blansett and C/SSgt Austin Rauscher. Present but not in the color guard were; Capt. David Small, 1st Lt Tom Irvin, 2nd Lt Angie Blansett, and C/Col William Small.



FROM FRONT TO REAR, AND LEFT TO RIGHT, ARE CADETS DOYLE, CANEVA, BLANSETT AND RAUSHER



- **GRASSMEN TO THE RESCUE:** The squadron sends a big "Thank You" to Cadet Staff Sergeants Austin and Keyvin Rauscher for providing lawn and yard service at the squadron this summer. A couple of senior members had been scratching their heads trying to figure out how the lawn mysteriously got mowed. The Rauschers quietly took the initiative to help keep our squadron looking good while the grass grows fast - and it is much appreciated!

- The blues worn by C/SrA Peter Iverson during his recent promotion ceremony are the same blues worn by his father, Jon Iverson, during his ROTC tenure and as a junior officer in the USAF some years ago.

PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-038, PIERRE)

(Item and photos submitted by Lt. Col. Gatje)

- **AMERICAN LEGION AND OAHE DAYS PARADE:** The squadron participated in two parades recently in the Capitol City. The first was on 20 June during Oahe Days, Pierre's summer Community Celebration that includes activities such as airboat rides, a car show, art show, mountain bike race, a Cardboard Boat Regatta and numerous entertainment events as well as a large and well-attended parade. CAP was one of the first units in the Oahe Days Parade. A large number of other groups followed. The second parade, the next day, was to honor the veterans of the American Legion during their statewide convention held in Pierre. Participating in the parades were senior members Lt. Col. Myra Christensen, Lt. Col. Tam Gatje, and 1st Lt. Jon Becker. Cadets included C/TSgt Hannah Becker, Cadet Margot Pearson and C/Amn Brant Malfero. Major Lee Vaughan brought the CAP squadron aircraft mockup from Philip for use in the parade. This was constructed earlier by members of the Pierre and Philip Squadrons and has been used in parades and other activities a number of times.



RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-031, RAPID CITY)

(Items submitted by Lt. Kuecker and Lt. Col. Hewett, photos by Lt. Col. Hewett)

- **WELCOME ABOARD:** Our squadron has a new senior member: John Duffield. We are pleased you have chosen to join CAP and proud that you are serving in our squadron.

- **FAMILY FUN NIGHT:** The third time's a charm. On Monday night, 30 June, the squadron held its fifth Monday of the month Family Fun night at squadron headquarters on Ellsworth AFB. This event was scheduled to happen twice before, but due to snow, wind, rain and the lovely South Dakota weather we have had to postpone it. Hamburgers and drinks were provided by the Squadron. Senior Members brought a side dish, and the cadets brought a dessert. We had a great turnout and had a lot of fun. Dan Kuecker, a former CAP member who now works for the Black Hills Red Cross, gave a quick overview of the Red Cross and how families can prepare for a disaster including a handout with tips on how to prepare and what you might need in your emergency kit. We had numerous door prizes including beach balls for the kids, some dive sticks, a gift card to Black Hills Bagels, and other items for the adults. Unsurprisingly when dealing with teenagers there were no desserts left over at the end of the night and very little food. It was a terrific evening and a good time was had by all. We were all so busy having fun no photos taken! Huge thanks to everyone for the food and preparations. A special thank you to the Voll family for the use of the grill, popcorn machine, and for cooking. Also, thank you to SM Voll and Cadet Voll for their help in setting up and clean up.

SIOUX FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-050, SIOUX FALLS)

(Items submitted by Capt. Neil Schmid, photos by Capt. Karla West)



- **EASTERN SOUTH DAKOTA RED CROSS BANQUET:** On Wednesday, 18 June, the squadron color guard presented the colors at the annual Eastern South Dakota Red Cross Banquet held at the Ramkota Hotel in Sioux Falls. Newly joined CAP Senior Member Jeff Veire is a Red Cross employee and arranged for our participation. As usual the cadets look sharp and performed flawlessly posting and retiring the colors. Our "Ambassadors of Professionalism" consistently garner many favorable comments wherever they appear. They lead the way in raising public awareness of the squadron in Sioux Falls and the surrounding communities, as well as promoting SDWG and CAP.

- **MARION SUMMER CELEBRATION:** The SFCS Color Guard proudly led the 2014 Marion Summer Celebration and All-School Summer Reunion Parade on Saturday, 28 June. The event is an annual reunion of all classes from the Marion schools and is a two day celebration of fun, food, fireworks and activities for young and old. The parade included members of the Fire Department with their equipment, Legion Motor Cycle riders, floats from local businesses, and classic and vintage cars. Our color guard, is gaining large notice in the community. CAP Maj. Justin Johnson, a local resident, says the school superintendent is impressed with our professionalism and is interested in further community participation with CAP.



- **WELCOME ABOARD:** Our squadron has a new senior member: Jeff Veire. We are pleased you have chosen to join CAP and proud that you are serving in our squadron.

★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

Senior Member Promotions



Congratulations to Brandon Caneva of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on his advanced promotion to the rank of Captain! On the strength of his recently acquired A&P license with Inspection Authorization he has been promoted for having a mission related skill. Caneva is active in the squadron as the Deputy Commander of Cadets and the Transportation Officer.



Congratulations to Tom Irvin of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron who, based on his mission related skills as a Commercial Pilot, received advanced promotion to the rank of First Lieutenant!

Cadet Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Nichole Schneider of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on her promotion to the rank of Cadet Captain and receipt of the milestone Amelia Earhart Award!



Congratulations to Jared Doyle of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron and to Devon Brown of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Second Lieutenant and receipt of the milestone Billy Mitchell Award! C/2nd Lt Doyle is the first new cadet officer at Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron in the past three years.



Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Jason Parry of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Chief Master Sergeant and receipt of the Goddard Award!



Congratulations to Jaden Roblewsky of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron Falls on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Master Sergeant and receipt of the General Jimmy Doolittle Award!





Congratulations to Keyvin Rauscher of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Technical Sergeant and receipt of the Captain Eddie Rickenbacker Award!



Cadet Airman Promotions



Congratulations to Steven Diaconu of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, and to Peter Iverson of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!



Congratulations to Lathen Norling of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the General Hap Arnold Award!



Congratulations to Brant Malfero of Pierre Composite Squadron, to Nathaniel Fleet of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron, and to Christopher Schuppan of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman and receipt of the Curry Award!



★ ★ KUDOS ★ ★



Congratulations to Lt. Tom Irvin of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron who successfully completed the Aerospace Education Program for Senior Members and in recognition thereof received the Brigadier General Charles E. "Chuck" Yeager Aerospace Education Achievement Award!



A special thanks to SM Christy Voll, of Rushmore Composite Squadron, for the hours of time she has spent at the Wing HQ office helping on various projects (Legislative Day, Wing Conference, etc.).



The Wing Administrator passes on her thanks to thank Capt. John Wallace and all the Squadron TO's for all the work on getting the vans repaired from last year's hail damage. It has taken a lot of effort to get them all done and out of the shops.



Congratulations to C/Capt Silas Busch of Rushmore Composite Squadron who completed IS-100!



Congratulations to C/SSgt Jaden Petersen of Big Sioux Composite Squadron who completed IS-100 and IS-700!



Congratulations to C/Amn Christopher Schuppan of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, and to C/Amn Daniella Petersen and C/Amn Nathaniel Fleet of Big Sioux Composite Squadron, who completed their General Emergency Services qualification.

MASS KUDOS: The Split SAREX this month resulted in a number of senior members and cadets enhancing their Emergency Services credentials either by recertifying or earning new operations qualifications.

SD-001 – Lt. Col. Mark Huntington qualified as Liaison Officer, Mission Observer and recertified as a Mission Staff Assistant

SD-031 – Lt. Col. Dave Jeffries received Pilot Rating

SD-031 – C/MSgt Errol Kelly qualified as a Ground Team Member Levels 1, 2 and 3

SD-031 – Lt. Col Gary Hewett re-qualified as Check Pilot (Airplane, G-1000, Glider), Check Pilot Examiner (Airplane, Glider, G1000), Glider Pilot, Instructor Pilot (Airplane, Glider), Instrument Pilot, Orientation Pilot (AFROTC, Airplane, Glider), Tow Pilot, VFR Pilot, VFR Pilot (G1000)

SD-050 – C/Capt Samuel Huntington qualified as Ground Team Leader, Ground Team Member Levels 2 & 3

SD-050 – 1st Lt. Robert Hinkhouse qualified as Ground Team Member Levels 1, 2 & 3, and UDF Team

SD-050 – C/CMSgt Nicholas Nash qualified as Ground Team Member Levels 2 & 3

SD-050 – 1st Lt. Karen Espeland qualified as Ground Team Member Level 3

SD-050 – 1st Lt. Tyler Calvin qualified as Mission Scanner

SD-050 – Capt. Joseph Oye qualified as Mission Staff Assistant

SD-058 – C/CMSgt Chris Dinnel qualified as Ground Team Member Levels 2 & 3, and UDF Team Member

SD-058 – C/2nd Lt Tyler Gross qualified as Ground Team Member Level 3, and UDF Team Member

SD-058 – C/SSgt Jaden Petersen qualified as Ground Team Member Level 3

SD-058 – C/SSgt Jaden Petersen qualified as Mission Radio Operator

SD-058 – C/Capt. Joshua Klosterman qualified as Mission Radio Operator and Mission Staff Assistant

SD-058 – Maj. Nicholas Gengler qualified as Mission Radio Operator

SD-063 – Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese qualified as a Glider Pilot

★ ★ MILITARY TRIBUTE ★ ★

THE DOOLITTLE RAIDERS



There were 80 Doolittle Raiders in April 1942, when they carried out one of the most courageous and dangerous military operations in our nation's history.

After Japan's sneak attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1942, with the United States reeling, something dramatic was needed to turn the war effort around.

Even though there were no friendly airfields close enough to Japan for the United States to launch a retaliation raid, a daring plan was devised. Sixteen B-25s were modified to take off from the deck of an aircraft carrier. This had never before been tried -- sending such big, heavy bombers from a carrier.

The 16 five-man crews, under the command of Lt. Col. James Doolittle, who himself flew the lead plane off the USS Hornet, could not return to the carrier. They would have to hit Japan and then hope to make it to China for landing. But on the day of the raid, the Japanese military caught wind of the plan. The Raiders were told they would have to take off from much farther out in the Pacific Ocean than they had counted on. They were told that because of this they would not have enough fuel to make it to safety. And those men went anyway.

They bombed Tokyo, and then flew as far as they could. Four planes crash-landed; 11 more crews bailed out, and three of the Raiders died. Eight more were captured; three were executed. Another died of starvation in a Japanese prison camp. One crew made it to Russia.

Of the 80 Raiders, 62 survived the war. As 2013 began, there were five living Raiders; then, in February, one passed away at age 96. Now only four out of the original 80 survive: Dick Cole (Doolittle's co-pilot), Robert Hite, Edward Saylor and David Thatcher. All are in their 90s.

Beginning in 1946, the surviving Raiders held a reunion each April, to commemorate the mission. The reunion is in a different city each year. This year at Fort Walton Beach, Florida they decided that there are too few of them for the public reunions to continue. The events in Fort Walton Beach marked the end. It has come full circle; Florida's nearby Eglin Field was where the Raiders trained in secrecy for the Tokyo mission. The men have decided that after this final public reunion they will wait until a later date -- sometime this year -- to get together once more, informally and in absolute privacy. That is when they will open a bottle of 1896 Hennessy Very Special cognac to drink a final farewell toast to their fallen comrades. The year 1896 is not happenstance: that was the year Jimmy Doolittle was born.

This is their 70th Anniversary photo.





“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for July 2014

Official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force - Citizens Serving Communities: Above and Beyond

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WING TIPS

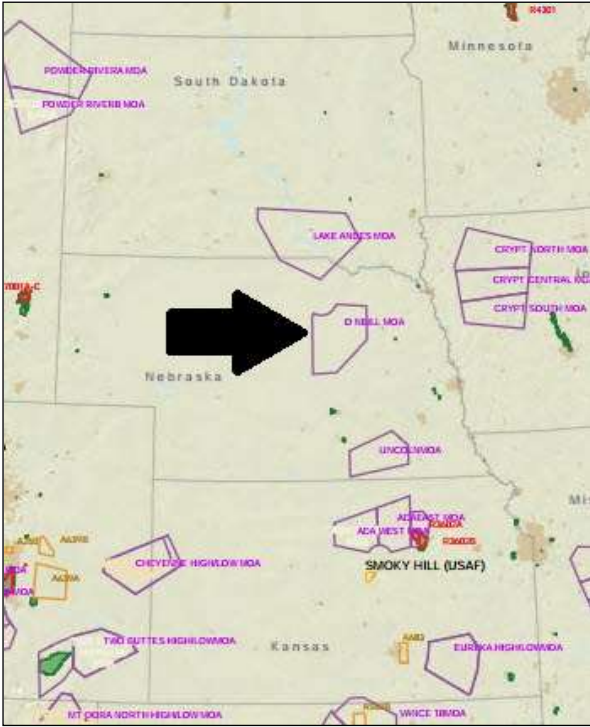
HOT NEWS: **SOUTH DAKOTA WING WINS NCR SEARCH AND RESCUE MISSIONS AWARD:** SDWG has been selected as North Central Region winner of the Search and Rescue Missions Award. This marks the second time in three years that South Dakota Wing has been awarded this high honor. North Central Region commander, Colonel Robert Todd, stated that the award is well merited as the Wing has been both aggressive and innovative in finding new missions for our aircraft and personnel. While SDWG is one of the smallest wings in the nation we are in the top ten nationally in “per-capita” flight hours. The award will be presented to SDWG commander Col. Seten at CAP’s National Convention to be held in Las Vegas from 14-16 August 2014.

- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS:** SDWG flew aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife on ten days in July in support of the Department of Game, Fish & Parks and the South Dakota State University. GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. The surveys resulted in 14.2 flight hours for SDSU and 12.7 flight hours for GF&P for a total of 26.9 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. The CAP pilot for all the flights was Lt. Col. Gary Hewett. He was accompanied by Mr. Brandon Tycz from SDSU on the flights on the 2nd, 9th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th and by Ms. Paige Mueggenberg from GF&P on the flights on the 3rd, 8th, 16th, 23rd and 28th.

- **EXERCISE FALCON KEYNOTE 2014.** SDWG continued to provide support to the South Dakota Air National Guard by participating on three occasions as a target aircraft in SDANG Exercise Falcon Keynote 2014. The purpose of the exercise was to provide the 114th Fighter Wing’s alert aircrews training in aerospace control alert intercept procedures, a function of its Homeland Security mission. A CAP Cessna-172P aircraft, based in Sioux Falls, acted as the target aircraft. The objective for the pilots of the F16s of the 175th Fighter Squadron was to hone the skills of being able to quickly and safely intercept and evaluate a slow moving aircraft that could pose a security risk or that may have inadvertently strayed into restricted airspace. SDWG is pleased and proud to provide this cost effective support to SDANG by providing target aircraft for them to

practice air intercept techniques. CAP partners with the USAF helping to provide a total force approach to readiness and enhanced national security.

- **LOW-LEVEL ROUTE SURVEYS:** Each year the South Dakota Air National Guard (SDANG) requests South Dakota Wing conduct low-level route surveys (LLRS) of selected military air training routes and aerial Military Operations Areas (MOA). These military air training routes cover southeastern South Dakota, northwestern Iowa and northeastern Nebraska leading to and from the O'Neill MOA in northeastern Nebraska.



The purpose of these sorties is to search for uncharted antenna towers and changes to charted towers, and noise sensitive areas (stock pens and feedlots), areas to be avoided by SDANG pilots. There are an amazing number of these between Sioux City and Omaha. SDWG aircrews noted many on air training routes. Updated charts provided by SDANG have helped SDWG aircrews in eliminating duplicate photos of known targets.

During the month of July, SDWG flew seven sorties for a total of 18 flight hours that covered approximately 1739 nautical miles. The budget calls for 6,000 miles with 67 flying hours. At this point, we have completed 30% of the mission. The amazing thing is that these flights occurred between 16-24 July. There have been numerous flight cancellations due to unstable

weather and thunderstorms, including planned 700 mile sorties for completion of the O'Neill MOA. The goal is to complete all low-level route surveys no later than 31 August.



SDWG aircrew members have been Capt. Matt Meert, Lt. Shannon Hofer, Lt. Karen Espeland, Capt. Neil Schmid, Maj. Todd Epp, Maj. Nick Gengler, Col. John Seten and Lt. Col. Rick Larson.

In the photo (l-r) Maj. Todd Epp, Maj. Nick Gengler and Capt. Neil Schmidt fly an LLRS on 23 July aboard a Sioux Falls-based CAP Cessna-182T.

When SDWG flies a LLRS, a command post is set up for C³ support for the aircraft. SDWG Lt. Col. Larson serves as Incident Commander. Capt. Neil Schmid of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron is Project Officer and Lead Planner for SDWG LLRS missions. He submitted this report.

- **ELLSWORTH AFB'S OPEN HOUSE:** SDWG has been invited to participate in Ellsworth AFB's open house on Saturday 16 August. Capt. Josh Hall is in charge of the operation which includes setting up a table/canopy, handing out recruiting materials and selling CAP water bottles. We may do an ELT demo. We hope to have one of our Cessna-182, plugged into a power unit for show and tell. If not, then just a static display.

- **CAP SUPPORTS HAYWARD AIR RALLY:** The Rapid City Regional Airport held an open house 26 July to showcase general aviation in the Black Hills. The event coincided with the staging of some 30 aircraft taking part in the Hayward Air Rally cross-country competition, the longest continually-held proficiency flying event in North America. Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron members employed their culinary skills cooking a pancake breakfast and hamburger lunch for the participants and attendees. Members of Rushmore Composite Squadron provided setup and site security for the event putting up safety cones and barrier tape to help with

crowd control in the aircraft static display area. Lt. Col. Gary Hewett stood by CAP's Cessna-182 with G1000 "glass" cockpit to answer questions. Col. Mike Beason directed and supervised the CAP contingent.



CAP AIRCRAFT ON STATIC DISPLAY AT RAPID CITY REGIONAL AIRPORT

- **WWII CAP CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL UPDATE:** A CGM is to be awarded collectively to CAP members in recognition of their service and exemplary record during the WWII. These unpaid volunteer civilian members of CAP used their own aircraft to perform a myriad of essential tasks for the military and the Nation, logging more than 500,000 flying hours, sinking two enemy subs, and saving hundreds of crash victims during World War II.

- The U.S. Mint, with CAP's assistance, is working on several designs. Once these are complete the best design will be selected. After that, the gold CGM medal and bronze replicas will be struck.

- Congress, the White House and CAP will agree on an award ceremony date. A formal CGM award ceremony is envisioned for early 2015 in Washington, in the Rotunda of the Capitol with a special presentation ceremony later that day for veterans/families receiving the bronze replica medals. Veterans/families of veterans (who have already passed) not able to travel to Washington can receive replica medals in their home state at a later date. The gold medal will go to the Smithsonian Institution where it will be available for display and research.

To receive a replica medal a CAP veteran (or families of those who've passed) must be listed and validated as having been in CAP during WWII. List new names at http://capmembers.com/cap_national_hq/goldmedal/ and the link "Add Gold Medal Candidate". All entries must contain current contact information for either the veteran/member or their family.

- **GROUP TO RECREATE FIRST U.S. COMBAT AIRFIELD:** On March 9, 1916, the U.S. was invaded by forces under the command of the Mexican revolutionary Pancho Villa. Villa and his troops attacked civilians and the military post in the small border town of Columbus, New Mexico.



Eighteen Americans were killed before the attackers were turned back. In response, President Woodrow Wilson ordered the American military "Punitive Expedition" to cross into Mexico to destroy Villa and his fighting forces. Accompanying the U.S. ground forces was a small detachment of U.S. Army airplanes which were based at a landing field outside of Columbus. This deployment of the First Aero Squadron, flying Curtiss "Jenny" biplanes, was the first use of American military aircraft in a combat campaign. Their Columbus-based operation was, in effect, the birth of the U.S. Air Force. The First Aero Squadron Foundation plans to recreate the "Birthplace of American Airpower" by building a replica of

the original military flight line on the edge of Columbus, N.M. In 2007, a group of aviation enthusiasts met to discuss how to protect the site of the original aerodrome where the First Aero Squadron was based in 1916/17. In 2008, the group formed the First Aero Squadron Foundation (FASF) to secure, preserve and restore the

historic aerodrome. The aerodrome will be reconstructed along with a museum to house a selection of early World War I and pre-World War II aircraft. FASF feels it is important for everyone to know the history of our nation's air force that began in a tiny town in southern New Mexico. The painting, by aviation artist Peter R. Westacott, is titled "Cradle of American Air Power".

Source: News of the Force, 10 July 2014. <http://news of the force.org>, and, <http://firstaerosquadron.com/>, accessed 10 July 2014.

STAFF NOTES



WING COMMANDER

Col. John Seten, CAP

- I'm pleased to inform you of Sharon Moad's promotion to Major. She has worked tirelessly for SDWG through the years having served as squadron commander for the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron and she has worked equally hard at the DDR program within the wing. Sharon brings a tremendous amount of firefighting experience to the table which enhances her ability to train our members in the Incident Command System. I'm confident Maj. Moad will continue to be a great asset to SDWG and to CAP.
- I am happy to announce that Capt. Sylvia Small has been assigned as the Wing Finance Officer. She has an extensive background in accounting and will serve the position well.
- I'm also happy to announce that Col. Mike Beason has been assigned as the Wing Inspector General. As a former wing commander, He will bring vast knowledge and experience to the position. I would also like to thank Col. Beason for his years as Wing Finance Officer. Col Beason served in that position well and earned the National Finance Officer of the Year award in 2012. I would like to thank both of them for stepping forward and helping out with these very important staff positions.



WING VICE COMMANDER

Lt. Col. Richard Larson, CAP

- During the afternoon of 5 July I was interviewed by KELO radio's Jon Michaels for his "Forum" public affairs show. The topics discussed were SDWGs recent relief efforts with photo missions, Red Cross assistance, Butte County SAR, and spotlighting Emergency Services. I also mentioned our USAF evaluated SAREX. The show aired on Sunday morning, 6 July, on six local AM/FM radio stations. The podcast can be listened to at: <http://kelo.com/podcasts/jon-michaels-forum/889/forum-week-1896-civil-air-patrol-in-sioux-falls/>



WING ADMINISTRATOR

Ms. Rachel Kuecker

- I'm looking for a small (dorm size) refrigerator for the Wing HQ office. If anyone has one for sale or is willing to donate one to Wing HQ please contact me.

- I was on vacation for two weeks in July and I am still getting thru my backlog. If there is something that someone is missing - please follow up with me. It may have been overlooked in my mile high stack.
-



WING DIRECTOR OF CADET PROGRAMS

Lt. Col. Linda Buechler, CAP

- National Character Day is an opportunity for cadets to learn why moral character will play a part in shaping their future, to help cadets develop a personal code of honor, and to re-commit themselves to the drug-free ethic. This year National Character day will be 26-28 September with members arriving by Friday evening. National Character Day is on Saturday, and departure is on Sunday morning. The special guest speaker is Lt. Col. Mark Huntington with Col. John Seten planning to speak also if plans allow.

Cost is \$30 for food for the weekend. Location is the Community Bible Church in Pierre. Bring sleeping bags, towels, wash cloths, toiletries, BDU's and civilian clothing. There is \$1000 to help defray fuel expenses and supplies. Point of contact is Lt Col Linda Buechler. [605-212-7032](tel:605-212-7032) or ltclindab@aol.com



WING DIRECTOR OF AEROSPACE EDUCATION

Lt. Col. Rodney "Buck" DeWeese, CAP

- Planning is in the final stages for a combined SDWG Aerospace Education/Emergency Services event in conjunction with the South Dakota Air National Guard Museum's open house to be held 7-10 August in Pierre. Currently we envision a static display of a CAP C-182T aircraft, an open house display table, ground school for the "fly-a-teacher" (TOPS) program, radio-controlled model aircraft flights, model rocketry activity, cadet o-rides, and TOPS flights. It will be a big deal event and maximum turnout of seniors and cadets is requested.

Aerospace Education funds are available for group transportation round trip by van. I know David Small is having some ground search team training on Thursday for whoever wants to "double up" on weekend events.

Because we all will be camping at Farm Island in Pierre and providing meals, it is very important we hear from those planning on coming. We expect to check into the campground after 1700 on Wednesday, 6 August. Dinner that night will not be provided so either bring your own or eat before checking in.

Thursday will be cadet led emergency services training - a chance to get your ground team qualifications updated. Friday and Saturday will have lots of AE activities and some ES training. Cadets; if you are really motivated to get your rocketry badge - which allows you to wear a cool metal badge on your blues - we should be able to get this accomplish it this weekend. We will also have a chance to learn about aviation principles, build balsa wood, rubber band powered airplanes, fly remote controlled airplanes and get some o-flights.

Right now we don't have activities for Sunday, 10 August so we can leave after the Cadet Advisory Council meeting is over, around 1800 Saturday evening. If cadets would like to spend Saturday night at the camp ground that may be a possibility - let me know if you would like to do so.

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-058, BROOKINGS)

(Item submitted by Maj. Gengler)

- **OSHKOSH B'GOSH:** C/1st Lt Sullivan Busch and C/CMSgt Chris Dinnel are off to the National Cadet Special Activity (Blue Beret) at the Experimental Aircraft Association's gigantic air show "AirVenture 2014" in Oshkosh, WI, from 21 July to 4 August. Participants at National Blue Beret have the chance to provide support to one of the largest, most prestigious air shows in the world. Each participant works in several areas including the flight line and exhibits. Training includes techniques of aircraft marshaling and electronic direction finding.

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)

(Items submitted by 1st Lt. K. Bierwirth, photo by SM Peter Bierwirth)



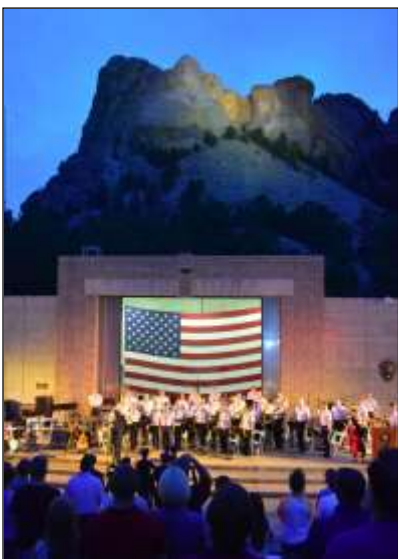
- The squadron participated in the Patriots parade in Custer on the 4th of July. This annual event honors Custer's active/veteran military members and emergency services personnel. Our color guard led the parade and later we assisted with the Flag-Raising Ceremony at the 5th Street Flagpole. Further, we helped raise the flag at the historic 1881 Courthouse Museum. Squadron Commander Lt. Kris Bierwirth was a member of the July 4th activities board.

FRONT C/MSGT JASON PARRY AND C/TSgt THOMAS DILLON. BACK LT. KRIS BIERWIRTH AND LT. VICKI BIERWIRTH

- Lt. James Dillon and Capt. Richard Geeting did a presentation on the Civil Air Patrol, South Dakota Wing and our squadron at the meeting of the Fall River County Commissioners.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-063, SPEARFISH)

(Items and photos submitted by Maj. Small)



- **INDEPENDENCE DAY AT MOUNT RUSHMORE:** On 3 July, ten seniors and cadets from the Lookout Mountain and Rushmore Composite Squadrons visited Mount Rushmore. The Air Force Academy band, the "Falconaires" performed patriotic and other music at Mount Rushmore's amphitheater. The weather was perfect and the crowd was enthusiastic. During a break in the music a distinguished multi-service swearing in ceremony was held. A group of over 50 applicants to the U.S. armed forces filed out in two columns in front of the amphitheater. After the four service recruiters present (Army, Navy, Marines, and Air Force) formally reported that their candidates were "present and accounted for" the Oath of Enlistment was given by all and received by Col. Kevin Kennedy commander of the 28th Bomb Wing, at Ellsworth AFB. Lt. Gen. Michelle Johnson, Superintendent of the Air Force Academy, gave a brief speech highlighting the freedom that we have in the United States and pointing out that it came at a cost.

Attending from the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron in Spearfish were Lt. Col. William Collister, 1st Lt. Tom Irvin, Maj. Sylvia Small, Maj. David Small and cadets C/AB Katie Spruill, C/2nd Lt Jared Doyle and C/SrA Peter Iverson. From Rushmore Composite Squadron were Lt. Col. Dave and Maj. Joyce Jeffries and C/Amn Nicholas Kochutin.

- On 26 July, squadron members provided support to the Rapid City Regional Airport open house. The event showcased general aviation in the Black Hills and coincided with the staging of approximately 30 aircraft participating in the Hayward Air Rally cross-country competition. Personnel who took part were: Seniors - Collister, DeWeese, Dettman, Caneva, Hopewell, and D. Small, Jr. Cadets - Blansett, Caneva, A. Rauscher, K. Rauscher, Spruill and Small.

PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-038, PIERRE)

(Items/photos submitted by Lt. Col. Gatje)



- PIERRE CADET ATTENDS MANKATO FLIGHT ACADEMY:** C/TSgt Hannah Becker recently attended the North Central Region Joint Flight Academy along with cadets from Minnesota, Missouri, California and Florida Wings. The academy was held near Mankato, MN from 11-19 July. Each cadet received about 10 hours of flight time getting them well started on their course to being pilots licensed by the FAA. During the academy cadets experienced two sessions of flying each day and two sessions of ground school. Both will be needed for the FAA written and flying tests. Volunteer certified flight instructors provided the knowledge the cadets will need.

Cadet Becker said the high points of the academy were (especially) the flying and talking to other cadets about flying and “stuff”. On the low end she thought the weather days were worst. Hurry up and wait for good weather. Each of the ten cadets at the powered flight academy completed their supervised solo and those in the glider program also completed their supervised solo with two completing their regular solo.

When not actively flying or attending ground school, the cadets received a briefing and tour from a Mayo Clinic “Mayo One” helicopter pilot who described their day-to-day operation. They also had the opportunity to tour a Dassault Falcon 20 and Dassault Falcon 50 (three-engine) aircraft operated by North Star Aviation of Mankato.

IN THE PHOTO: C/TSgt HANNAH BECKER AT THE CONTROLS DURING FLIGHT TRAINING AT THE JOINT FLIGHT ACADEMY



- PIERRE MEMBERS ARE ALL WET!:** Several senior and cadet members recently participated in a six-hour raft trip down the Niobrara River. Squadron members Lt. Col. Myra Christensen, Lt. Jon Becker, C/TSgt Hannah Becker, C/Amn Brant Malfero, Cadet Margot Pearson, the parent of one of the cadets and two former cadets floated down the Niobrara River from Berry Bridge to Stan’s Landing. All was not just fun and frolic as they used the trip to practice CAP related subjects. For example, before leaving Pierre everyone received a safety briefing on the possible hazards of the trip. This included water hazards, sun, heat, hot weather first aid and hydration. Preparing to leave Pierre and en route to the river they practiced map reading and determining their current location. All the “floaters” reported that the trip was great fun and wanted to do it again in the future. It was a very relaxing trip without email or cell phones to worry about. It was suggested that other units that might be interested. Costs will depend on the

available vendors next year. If your squadron is interested in making this trip next year, contact Lt. Col. Christensen to make your desire known. In the photo, (L-R) Cadets Hannah Becker, Brant Malfero and Margot Pearson cool off under a waterfall on the Niobrara River raft trip.

RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-031, RAPID CITY)

(Item submitted by Maj. Kipp)

- On 26 July, squadron members provided support to the Rapid City Regional Airport open house. The event showcased general aviation in the Black Hills and coincided with the staging of approximately 30 aircraft participating in the Hayward Air Rally cross-country competition. Personnel who took part were: Seniors - Beason, Speirs, Hewett, Larson, the Dills, Hack and Voll. Cadets - Kochutin, Kelly, L. Woodard, T. Woodard, Voll and Weller.

SIOUX FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-050, SIOUX FALLS)

(Item and photo submitted by Lt. Col. Lair)

- OSHKOSH B'GOSH:** C/Maj Brandon West and C/Capt Nicole Schneider are off to the National Cadet Special Activity (Blue Beret) at the Experimental Aircraft Association's gigantic air show "AirVenture 2014" in Oshkosh, WI., from 21 July to 4 August. Participants at National Blue Beret have the chance to provide support to one of the largest, most prestigious air shows in the world. Each participant works in several areas including the flight line and exhibits. Training includes techniques of aircraft marshaling and electronic direction finding.



- CADET ORIENTATION RIDES:** On 5 July, Pilot-in-Command Lt. Col. Greg Lair (center) took two cadets for an orientation ride on a CAP Cessna-172P. On the first sortie C/A1C Julia Lair was at the controls for a flight from Sioux Falls Regional Airport to the municipal airport at Madison. Cadet Lair (left) enjoyed her second powered flight. A natural pilot, she easily navigated to Madison. She looks forward to studying Aeronautical Engineering and hopes to become a USAF Fighter Pilot. On the second sortie C/SRA Ivan Kreger (right) was at the controls enjoying his fourth powered flight as he flew from Madison Municipal Airport back to Sioux Falls Regional Airport. He was smoothly demonstrated skills he learned on previous orientation flights. He hopes to continue flight training and in the

future intends to study meteorology. Both cadets assisted with the pre-flight activities putting their CAP Aircraft Ground Handling skills to work. The weather was perfect, and the cadets had a great time.

★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

Senior Member Promotions



Congratulations to David Small, Jr. of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron and to Sharon Moad of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron on their well-deserved promotion to the rank of Major!

Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Blake Hayden and Josiah Huntington, both of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, and to Ryan Harris of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on their promotion to their rank of Cadet Master Sergeant and receipt of the Lindbergh Award!



Congratulations to Austin Rauscher of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, and to Jaden Petersen of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Technical Sergeant and receipt of the Captain Eddie Rickenbacker Award!



Congratulations to Zebadiah Nelson of Big Sioux Composite Squadron and to Steven Diaconu of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on promotion to the rank of Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



Cadet Airman Promotions



Congratulations to Julia Lair of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on her promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!



Congratulations to Keith Warne of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, and to Daniella Petersen of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the General Hap Arnold Award!



★ ★ KUDOS ★ ★



Congratulations to 1st Lt. Tom Irvin of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron who completed the requirements of the Aerospace Education Program for Senior Members and in recognition thereof he received the Charles E. "Chuck" Yeager Aerospace Education Achievement Award!



Congratulations to Maj. Sharon Moad of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron who completed Level III (Management) of the Senior Member Professional Development Program and in recognition thereof received the Grover C. Loening Award!



Congratulations to C/Major Silas Busch of Rushmore Composite Squadron on his appointment as the squadron's Cadet Operations Officer.



Congratulations to C/1LT Tyler Gross of Big Sioux Composite Squadron on his appointment as the squadron's Cadet Administrative Officer!



Kudos to Col. Mary Donley for arranging for the Brookings van to get repaired while at Encampment!

★ ★ 2014 JOINT DAKOTA ENCAMPMENT ★ ★



Each year the South and North Dakota Wings hold a joint summer encampment for their cadets. This year North Dakota Wing hosted the encampment from 12-20 July at Camp Grafton near Devil's Lake, ND. Each encampment has a theme; for 2014 the theme was cadet leadership. At the encampment, senior ranking cadets brought the skills they have learned at squadron, wing, regional, and national level activities to teach others how to be better leaders. Cadets learn from other cadets and receive tutorage and guidance from their senior officers. This encampment taught leadership, teamwork, honor, courage, and determination as well as military customs and courtesies and drill and ceremonies. There were obstacle courses to run, repelling towers to traverse, leadership classes, physical fitness, and moral leadership guidance. In addition, the cadets got a taste of military life by living in open bay barracks and eating in a military dining facility. Some of the highlights of the encampment were the cadets flying in a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter courtesy of the North Dakota Army Guard, and the use of the Guard's high-tech small arms marksmanship simulator and Humvee operational trainer.



CAMP GRAFTON, ND, SITE OF THE 2014 JOINT DAKOTA CADET LEADERSHIP ENCAMPMENT



NORTH DAKOTA AND SOUTH DAKOTA WINGS' PARTICIPANTS AT THE 2014 JDCLE





“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for August 2014

Official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force - Citizens Serving Communities: Above and Beyond

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Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SDWingCAP and Like us on Twitter at [@SDWingCAP](https://twitter.com/SDWingCAP)

WING TIPS

- **WING CALENDAR OF EVENTS:** SDWG members like to know what’s happening in the wing in any given month. Please list your squadron’s upcoming events on the calendar on the Wing Website homepage.
- **REMINDER:** The SDWG exhibit at the South Dakota Air National Guard Museum in Pierre is still up and will remain so until about 3 October. If you happen to be heading to or through Pierre stop in at the museum and check out our exhibit. It’s well worth the visit.
- **AUGUST SEARCH AND RESCUE EXERCISE:** Dismal weather conditions on 22-23 August bedeviled South Dakota Wing’s Search and Rescue Exercise (SAREX). Originally to be held at the Pierre Composite Squadron, the weather outlook for the weekend there was so poor that it was decided to rebase the SAREX between Rushmore Composite Squadron and Sioux Falls Composite Squadron. An Incident Command Post was set up at both locations to conduct the training activities. Over the course of the two days, nine mission air sorties were flown. The sorties practiced aerial search techniques for a grid, route, and creeping line search. The object of these searches was a simulated small aircraft’s emergency locator transmitter (ELT). Once the search aircraft’s on-board sensors detected the ELT it flew to the location and orbited. At the same time the search aircraft were airborne, ground search teams were sent to the general search area and used hand-held radio-direction finding equipment to search for the ELT. After a search aircraft locked on to an ELT signal it communicated with the ground team to direct them to the simulated crash site to render aid and assistance. In addition to the aircrews and the ground search teams a number of personnel were busy at the two Incident Command Posts providing support in command and control, communications, logistics, public affairs, and general administration. *SDWG



demonstrated its capability to quickly adapt to changing conditions on short notice and conducted effective training for the over 40 personnel involved. In the photo, taken by Lt. Ron Lenz, Col. Mike Beason turns onto final approach to the Rapid City Airport during the SAREX.



was accompanied by Mr. Brandon Tycz from SDSU.

- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS:** SDWG flew aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife on five days in August in support of the Department of Game, Fish & Parks and the South Dakota State University. GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. The surveys resulted in 9.9 flight hours for GF&P and 8.9 flight hours for SDSU and for a total of 18.8 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. The CAP pilot on the 4th, 14th and 27th was Lt. Col. Gary Hewett. He was accompanied by Ms. Paige Mueggenberg of GF&P. The pilot on the 12th and 25th was Maj. Craig Goodrich. He

- **LOW-LEVEL ROUTE SURVEYS:** Each year the South Dakota Air National Guard's 114th Fighter Wing requests South Dakota Wing conduct Low Level-Level Route Surveys (LLRS) of military air training routes (MTR) and aerial Military Operations Areas (MOA). These MTRs cover southeastern South Dakota, northwest Iowa, and northeast Nebraska leading to/from the O'Neill MOA in northeast Nebraska. Sioux Falls' Joe Foss Field is an Air Combat Command (ACC) F-16 base and this airspace is used by active and reserve ACC units.



The purpose of these surveys is to ensure obstruction clearance at the minimum altitude usable for training. The CAP aircrews note potential hazards and obstacles not listed on current charts, assess possible air traffic conflicts from public use airports, airways and airstrips, and assess other potential flight safety hazards. In addition, they note the locations of noise sensitive areas such as stock pens and feedlots.

During the month of August, SDWG flew 12 sorties for a total of 35.6 flight hours that covered approximately 3,886 nautical miles. For 2014 SDWG flew a total of 19 LLRS sorties for just under 53 hours of flight time that covered 6,051 nautical miles. The activity involved two Cessna-172 and two Cessna-182 aircraft. The aircrews were comprised of 18 members from Sioux Falls, Brookings, Pierre and Rapid City. SDWG's unique uses for its aircraft put it in the Top 20 wings in the continental U.S. for aircraft utilization.

- When SDWG flies a LLRS, a command post is set up to support the aircraft. SDWG Lt. Col. Larson serves as Incident Commander. Capt. Neil Schmid of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron is Project Officer and Lead Planner for SDWG's LLRS missions. Lt. Scott Kuznicki was an aircrew member during the LLRS sorties flown in July. His name was inadvertently omitted from the July Skychaser article.

- **NATIONAL BLUE BERET – OSHKOSH, WI:** Imagine an air show with over 500,000 visitors and 10,000 aircraft. This is National Blue Beret (NBB), a two week long experience like no other that CAP offers every year in conjunction with the Experimental Aircraft Association's (EAA) "AirVenture" airshow in Oshkosh, WI.

This year, four cadets had the honor of representing South Dakota Wing. Our NBB cadets were First Lieutenant Sullivan Busch and Chief Master Sergeant Christopher Dinnel, of Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings, and Captain Nicole Schneider and Major Brandon West, of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron. As a result of their participation the cadets are authorized to wear the coveted blue beret with its prized St. Alban's pin.



The most important mission of the NBB program is to assist the EAA with flight line operations. Cadets are posted along taxiways during the operational hours of the air show directing pilots to their destinations. The second mission is crowd control at the ultra-light and military aircraft areas. The third mission is emergency services - locating lost or overdue aircraft by tracking its emergency locator beacon (ELT). Cadets also staff two station towers to observe aircraft landing on each runway to help keep track of which aircraft are on the ground.

NBB Operations are based out of “the compound,” as it is called. This compound includes a hangar for sleeping, an open field for formations, a communications building and, most important to every teenage cadet, a mess hall. The compound is run entirely by CAP personnel. Daily responsibilities include everything from kitchen duty to cleaning bathrooms and doing laundry for the 140 cadets and 42 senior members. *Article from information and photos by Capt. Karla West, Sioux Falls Composite Squadron*



- **AEROSPACE EDUCATION - EMERGENCY SERVICES WORKSHOP IN PIERRE:** Twenty eight SDWG members took part in a joint Aerospace Education (AE) – Emergency Services (ES) workshop held in Pierre from Thursday, 7 August to Saturday, 9 August.

Maj. David Small supervised nine cadets in CAP’s Model Rocketry Program at the Pierre airport. Four cadets, C/TSgt Austin Rauscher, C/Amn Nick Kochutin, C/2nd Lt Jared Doyle and C/MSgt Josiah Huntington, completed all three rocketry phases to earn the coveted CAP rocketry badge. The rockets were launched near the airport on Saturday with a single stage rocket constructed and flown by C/MSgt Josiah Huntington reaching a measured altitude of 383.98 feet.

C/1st Lt Sullivan Busch, under supervision of Wing Director of Operations Maj. Nick Gengler, led 16 Cadets and one Senior Member in a field training exercise focused on the skills employed by CAP ground search and rescue teams. Search and rescue teams were formed and deployed for realistic training scenarios.

We had special guests fly in from the North Dakota Wing in a FLIR-equipped CAP Cessna-182. The Forward Looking Infrared Radar is excellent for locating the heat signature of individuals at night or in heavy cover. NDWG pilots Capt. Dan Villas and Lt. Graham Frost and FLIR operator Capt. Daryl Billick set up a static display of the FLIR Cessna-182 at the Pierre airport and several cadets got to operate the sensors.

On Friday and Saturday Capt. Gary Dettman taught the intricacies of flight fundamentals and control to a group of eight cadets. Utilizing STEM kits sent by CAP National HQ the group built rubber band powered balsa wood aircraft and tested changing various aspects of flight dynamics and flight configurations. Capt. Dettman also supervised the cadets as they assembled and, after training on a remote control aircraft simulator, flew a remote controlled powered glider with a six foot wingspan. The model operated at a range of nearly a quarter mile and performed loops and other acrobatic maneuvers.

Also on Friday, cadets and seniors toured the South Dakota National Guard Museum where Wing Historian Maj. Todd Epp had just opened the new SDWG exhibit. 17 Cadets, 11 Senior Members and over 60 local children, parents and teachers attended the Open House at the museum. CAP provided tables for recruiting, airplane building, model rocketry and parachuting.

17 cadets pitched tents by the shelter at Farm Island State Recreation Area. A special thanks to Lt. Col. Myra Christiansen and Capt. Sylvia Small for providing three great meals per day. Lt. Col. DeWeese showed grill skills and Col. Mary Donley made sure everything ran smoothly. [Maj. David Small and Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese contributed to this article]



PHOTO 1



PHOTO 2



PHOTO 3



PHOTO 4

PHOTO CAPTIONS:

- 1 - MODEL ROCKETRY BADGE RECIPIENTS: CADETS JOSIAH HUNTINGTON, JARED DOYLE, AUSTIN RAUSCHER, NICK KOCHUTIN**
- 2 - GROUND SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM TRAINING**
- 3 - FLIR-EQUIPPED CESSNA-182 STATIC DISPLAY**
- 4 - BALSA WOOD AND POWERED GLIDER PILOTS**

• **AIR FORCE ACADEMY CREATES CYBERSECURITY MAJOR:** [Edited] The US Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., has created an academic major focused on cybersecurity. The new major, dubbed “Computer Network Security”, is designed to help cadets understand what the cyberspace domain is and how the Air Force will establish cyberspace superiority in future conflicts. The computer network security track will

teach cadets how to reverse engineer software to analyze viruses and other malware to figure out how it operates. Other classes deal with computer forensics, strategy, political science, and law.

Source: Air Force Magazine Online for Thursday, 14 August 2014.

- **BIRDBATH:** A KC-135 Stratotanker taxis through the wash rack, also known as the “bird bath”, after a mission on 18 August 2014. The KC-135 is assigned to the Tennessee Air National Guard's 134th Air Refueling Wing. (*Air National Guard photo by TSgt. Jonathan Young*).

Source: Air Force Magazine Online for Monday, 25 August 2014.



STAFF NOTES



WING COMMANDER

Col. John Seten, CAP

LET'S FLY ALL AIRCRAFT: This September 11th marks the Thirteenth Anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the north and south towers of the World Trade Center in lower Manhattan, on the Pentagon in Washington, DC and the tragic event near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. To commemorate the anniversary I challenge all SDWG pilots to fly all six of our aircraft on 11 September. Let our red, white and blue aircraft be seen in the skies all over South Dakota. When South Dakotans hear our aircraft's motor they will look up and see our national colors in the sky above them.

If you were going to do some proficiency flying, choose to do it on the 11th. Take other members, particularly new members, up with you. Wear your flight suits and tell people the story of CAP. I also ask that you take aloft with you an American flag, any American flag. The flag is a symbol of our freedom and our resolve as

Americans. Lastly, take photos of those participating in our 9/11 flights, both in the air and on the ground for display at wing conference. We'll likely still have some O-Flight money available so we can fly cadets when they get out of school.

Together, let's honor those that died on September 11th and those that have died in our War on Terror by flying our aircraft and demonstrating what it is to be free.



WING ADMINISTRATOR

Ms. Rachel Kuecker

END OF THE FISCAL YEAR: October 1st marks the beginning of the new Fiscal Year and each Squadron has paperwork that is required to be turned in for FY14. Please try to get that done and submitted on time. Please let Capt. Sylvia Small or me know if you have any questions.



WING CHIEF OF STAFF

Maj. David Small, Jr.

SD 2014 ANNUAL AVIATION HALL OF FAME EVENT: On Saturday, 6 September, the South Dakota FAA Safety Team will hold a Hall of Fame Event at Black Hills Aero at Black Hills Airport/Clyde Ice Field in Spearfish. The theme of the event is "Critical Thinking at Critical Moments". The day will start with a Sunrise Breakfast at 0700 followed by activities throughout the day. It will be a great time to meet fellow aviators from all backgrounds. Come and attend this all-day venture. Coincidentally, Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron is having an open house at the same location at the same time.



WING HISTORIAN

Maj. Todd Epp, CAP

SDWG EXHIBIT AT SDNG MUSEUM: On 8 August, the SDWG exhibit opened at the South Dakota National Guard Museum in Pierre. The exhibit will probably run through October or so.

The exhibit celebrates the SDWG/SDNG assistance to each other in the accomplishment of their missions. For example, the SDWG performs low level route surveys for the SDANG; the SDANG has allowed the SDWG to use its mobile emergency operations center for SAREXs and communications training.

The exhibit features current and decommissioned CAP uniforms such as the "Smurf Suit," the Corporate Dress Uniform, current and past flight jackets and a battle dress uniform. It also includes current and past equipment such as an aircraft radio, a ground radio, a GPS unit and pilot kneeboard. It also includes CAP insignia, the SDWG Roundup magazines, various awards, patches, a chart with LLRS routes highlighted, etc. A PowerPoint presentation showcases photos of SDWG and SDNG members and activities. All of the items are identified

with descriptions, with the history of the CAP, cooperation between the SDWG and the SDNG and other notable and interesting facts about the SDWG and CAP and SDNG on placards. The SDWG items are in two large cases, three mannequins, and two easels.

Thank you to SDNG Maj. Anthony Deiss for finding photos of Major General Tim Reisch at some of our joint events such as Falcon Keynote. Thanks to Capt. Jerry Foy, Capt. Jason Erickson, Capt. Jerry Gabert and Capt. Karla West in helping locate items for display; to Lt. Col. Myra Christensen for loaning her "Smurf Suit"; to the late Lt. Col. Dick Forman and his family for the donation of items to the SFCS that are on loan at the exhibit; to Lt. David Stockinger for providing outstanding photos for the PowerPoint presentation and to Capt. Foy and Lt. Col. Rick Larson for donating photos of them in the Guard and CAP activities for the PowerPoint. Also, thanks to Maj. David Small for taking photos of the exhibit. SDNG Museum Director Sonja Johnson made the exhibit possible through her enthusiasm, hard work and support.

I now begin work on the SDWG/CAP exhibit at the SD Air and Space Museum at Ellsworth AFB.



LEFT: MS. SONJA JOHNSON, DIRECTOR OF THE S.D. NATIONAL GUARD MUSEUM, POSES IN FRONT OF THE MUSEUM

RIGHT: MAJ. TODD EPP, SDWG HISTORIAN, AND MS. SONJA JOHNSON, DIRECTOR OF THE S.D. NATIONAL GUARD MUSEUM, POSE WITH PAST AND PRESENT CAP UNIFORMS AT THE SDWG EXHIBIT

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)

(Item submitted by Lt. K. Bierwirth)

- **COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING:** H(otel) E(cho) L(ima) L(ima) O(scar) South Dakota Wing THIS IS Crazy Horse Composite Squadron. BREAK. We have been working on our communications skills. Sometimes things come out GARBLED and we need to SAY AGAIN that we WILCO to the directives given. Sometimes we just have to WAIT while someone needs to STAND BY. So far the training has been pretty CHARLIE OSCAR OSCAR LIMA and we say AFFIRMATIVE to that! So until next month we are OUT.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-063, SPEARFISH)

(Items submitted by Maj. D. Small, Jr.)

- **SQUADRON OPEN HOUSE:** We are having an open house Saturday, 6 September, at our headquarters building. Our open house coincides with the FAA Hall of Fame Event also at the Black Hills Airport/Clyde Ice Field in Spearfish so we are hoping for a somewhat higher number of visitors.

RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-031, RAPID CITY)

(Item submitted by Lt. Kuecker, photo by Lt. Lenz)



- **FIRST CAP FLIGHT:** Lt. Rachel Kuecker had a wonderful first flight experience as she zoomed into the overcast skies over the West River area on 23 August during the recent SAREX. Although she admitted to being a bit apprehensive, the photo bears out her claim that she wasn't nervous, and is proud of the fact that she did not get airsick. The front seaters were Lt. Ron Lenz and Capt. Josh Hall, who took the photo.

- **ELLSWORTH AFB OPEN HOUSE:** On 16 August, Ellsworth AFB held an open house as part of its Black Hills Community Appreciation Day to show its appreciation to its neighbors. The squadron was present to support the event. A CAP Cessna aircraft was on static display with Col. Mike Beason on hand to answer questions from the public and to hoist younger visitors in and out of the aircraft. A crew of cadets and senior members were inside the hanger at a table with various CAP materials and to answer question.



COL. BEASON ANSWERING QUESTIONS AT THE STATIC DISPLAY



CAP TABLE IN THE MAIN EVENT HANGER

- **CADET ORIENTATION RIDES:** On 18 August, C/AB Jonathan Busch and C/A1C Nicholas Kochutin took off on a cadet orientation flight. Command pilot, Maj. Craig Goodrich, piloted the Cessna-182 to Custer County Airport, with aerial tours of the Shrine of Democracy (Mount Rushmore) and Crazy Horse Memorial on the way. The plan was to land at Custer County Airport and swap seats. However, although the stated crosswind on the Automated Surface Observing System was just 5 knots, the actual wind was significant and gusty. The aircraft received a significant gust just as it was touching down and ballooned considerably, so Maj. Goodrich rejected the landing. Valuing safety over mission, he decided to return to Rapid City for a full stop. As it was a bumpy day to fly, Cadet Busch wanted Maj. Goodrich to do 95% of the flying that day – it took a lot of work to keep the wings level and for everyone to feel OK. The moderate turbulence on the way home took away the desire to fly any more that day. But the cadets were heroes – they didn't get sick! Cadet Kochutin didn't get to have another O-ride that day as planned, but he got a ride in the back seat.



CADET BUSCH



CADET KOCHUTIN

SIoux FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-050, SIoux FALLS)

(Items by Lt. Espeland and Capt. Schmid, photo submitted by Lt. Espeland)

- **SDANG WINGS 'N WHEELS**: Capt. Matt Meert represented the squadron at the SD Air National Guard's annual "Wings 'n Wheels" gala on 2 August. The event, a display of Air Guard member's cars and aircraft, was well attended by Air Guard personnel and their families. The squadron displayed two CAP aircraft, our Cessna-172 and our G1000 "glass cockpit" Cessna-182. The G1000 display was activated using the ground power unit and Capt. Meert explained some of the capabilities to Air Guard members and their children. This display made for an impressive show and wowed many who viewed cockpit display and moving maps. In addition, our CAP van, affectionately known as the "Ghost Buster's Van" was on display. Several individuals expressed interest in joining CAP as potential Senior Members and potential Cadets.



- **SIoux EMPIRE FAIR SAFETY EXPOSITION**: Lt. Karen Espeland, the squadron Drug Demand Reduction Officer, was at the Sioux Empire Fair in Sioux Falls in August promoting Civil Air Patrol and CAP's Drug Demand Reduction program. The squadron had been asked to participate in the fair's safety exposition. Lt. Espeland was at the CAP table on the 2nd, 3rd and 7th of August while Lt. Vinnie Brown manned the table on the 6th of August.

- **SUPPORT TO LIFELIGHT FESTIVAL**: Lt. Col. Rick Larson, Capt. Neil Schmid and Maj. Todd Epp flew a sortie Saturday evening, 30 August, in support of the LifeLight Festival taking place east of Worthing. The main mission was support for the event, monitoring area vehicular traffic and testing radio interoperability with the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office. In addition a number of training tasks were accomplished; surveying, aerial photography, and four different search pattern techniques; line, parallel, expanding and sector. Experience was gained using Spidertracks, an in-flight, near-real-time aircraft tracking system. Aerial support had originally been scheduled for the three days of the festival. However, poor weather on Friday, 29 August, did not permit the flight to take place. On Sunday, 31 August, Lt. Kurt Johnson, Capt. Karla West and Lt. Jerald Hayden flew a sortie in support of LifeLight during which much of the same activity took place.



PHOTO CAPTIONS:

LEFT – AIRCRAFT NAVIGATION DISPLAY SHOWS THE CITY TOWN OF WORTHING, THE LIFELIGHT FESTIVAL GROUNDS AND THE PLOT OF AN EXPANDING SQUARE SEARCH PATTERN

RIGHT – THE LIFELIGHT FESTIVAL GROUNDS NEAR WORTHING


★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★


Senior Member Promotions


 Congratulations to David Small III of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of First Lieutenant! David received accelerated promotion to this grade on the merit of his Earhart Award earned as a cadet


 Congratulations to Justin Bierwirth of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Second Lieutenant!


Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions


 Congratulations to Levi Woodard of the Rushmore Composite Squadron, to Josiah Huntington of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, and to Justin Harris of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Master Sergeant and receipt of the General Jimmy Doolittle Award!




 Congratulations to Joseph Jagodzinski of Rushmore Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Technical Sergeant and receipt of the Captain Eddie Rickenbacker Award!

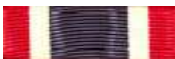



 Congratulations to Ivan Kreger, to Kyle Kreger, and to Julia Lair, all of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, and to Peter Iverson of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on promotion to the rank of Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!




Cadet Airman Promotions

 Congratulations to Nicholas Kochutin of Rushmore Composite Squadron, to Kyle Clement of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, and to Nathaniel Fleet of Big Sioux Composite Squadron on promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the General Hap Arnold Award!



 Congratulations to Noah Misselt of Rushmore Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman and receipt of the Curry Award! Amazingly, within a week of getting his membership, he completed his Curry Award and GES so he could participate in the August SAREX.



★ ★ CAP TRIBUTE ★ ★



By Jean P. Moore, blog for the Greenwich Library Oral History Project [Edited]: In February 2012, Oral History Project volunteer Suzanne M. Seton sat down with Molly Cook (1917-) for an interview about her and her mother, Marian Cummings, (1891-1984).

When Marian Cummings was as a young girl, she was such a challenge to her parents that she was sent east from her home in Seattle to a finishing school in Middlebury, Conn. After graduating with honors and returning to Seattle for her coming-out party, she met Wilbur Cummings, a young New York lawyer out west on assignment. It was love at first sight. Their romance culminated in marriage, and a few years later, with two young children in tow, the couple returned to New York where Mr. Cummings resumed his career, finally settling in Greenwich and buying an old farmhouse.

Life in Greenwich proved too uneventful for Mrs. Cummings, who began taking flying lessons at North Beach, now LaGuardia Airport. After earning her pilot's license, she went on to become the first woman to hold a commercial license.

Cook describes one maneuver involving a roll of toilet paper being thrown out of the plane at three or four thousand feet creating a streamer effect. "The trick was how long it took you to cut that strip twice," with your plane. She also describes an event called a spot landing, having to land your plane neatly and precisely within a circle made of flour.

In 1942, with the advent of war, the fun and games ended. During this time, Molly Cook and her mother Marian Cummings joined the Civil Air Patrol.



**RIGHT: MARIAN CUMMINGS BEGAN TAKING FLYING LESSONS
AT NEW YORK'S NORTH BEACH, NOW LAGUARDIA AIRPORT**

Source: www.greenwichtime.com/local/article/The-Flying-Family-of-Greenwich-5571292.php, accessed 22 June 2014





“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for September 2014

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WING TIPS

REMINDER: A Split SAREX will take place 10-12 October with ICPs at Spearfish and Sioux Falls. Everyone is encouraged to participate to the maximum extent possible. Hopefully the weather will be good and we can get in a lot of flying, ground search team missions and incident command post personnel training.

- **THE NEW WMIRS IS UPON US:** WMIRS 2.0 went online 1 October. It moves as much of the paperwork as possible to the digital realm. Signing in personnel, equipment, aircraft, et cetera, have moved online. Other features include a live view of current sorties along with a live stream of the comms log. Training for the new WMIRS will occur at the upcoming Split SAREX 10-12 October. The old WMIRS is still available for archival purposes. Old missions can be accessed but no new missions added. Maj. Gengler provided this information.

- **CAP GLIDER DAY AT HOT SPRINGS:** 1 September 2014 was Glider Day at the Hot Springs Municipal Airport. Despite a pause for lightning and rain, cadets got orientation rides and cadets and a senior member got glider rides. A CAP Cessna-182 was used for the o-rides.



A CAP Cessna 182 tow-plane and Schleicher K7 glider owned by the Black Hills Soaring Club were used for gliding. There were a total of ten o-rides and nine glider rides. It was a wonderful day for everyone, lots of excitement and fun. The activity was coordinated by Maj. Craig Goodrich. Senior members and parents coordinated the schedule of events, driving vans, and serving as

supervisors. Thanks to Col. Mike Beason, Lt. Jamie Nowlin, Capt. Patrick Nowlin, Lt. Ron Lenz, Lt. Kris Bierwirth, SM Roy Weller, Capt. Richard Geeting, and SM Melissa Weller. Capt. Nowlin flew to recertify as a CAP glider tow-pilot under the eye of tow-pilot instructor Lt. Col. Gary Hewett. Lt. Marty Larson was the CFIG in the glider. Compiled from input from Lt. Col. Hewett and Lt. K. Bierwirth.



CADETS PREPARE FOR GLIDER FLIGHTS

• **SDWG VISITS SDEMA CONFERENCE:** On 9 September, SDWG's top two officers, Col. John Seten and Lt. Col. Rick Larson, visited the annual South Dakota Emergency Management Association (SDEMA) Conference at Watertown. They mixed, mingled and spoke with attendees and examined vendor displays of emergency services gear. The people to whom they spoke were uniformly interested in better incorporating CAP into their emergency management options. Col. Seten urges all SDWG units to meet your local emergency managers, sheriffs, fire chiefs etc. Tell our story and provide information about SDWG capabilities.



• **LOW-LEVEL ROUTE SURVEY – WEST RIVER:** Ellsworth AFB's 28th Bomb Wing requested a low-level route survey on a specific military training route (MTR) in the West River area. The purpose of this LLRS was to look for uncharted obstacles, environmentally sensitive areas and potential safety hazards to military aircraft operating at high speed at a low level in that area. This task was assigned to a crew from Rushmore Composite Squadron consisting of Capt. Joshua Hall (Mission Pilot), Capt. Ryan Jones (Mission Observer), and Lt. Christina Voll (Mission Scanner Trainee). On 14 September, the aircrew flew a Cessna-182T on three sorties surveying the MTR from Rapid City into Wyoming for a total of 9.3 flying hours during the course of which several new towers were photographed and charted.



• **BUFFS AND BONES:** Ellsworth AFB asked CAP to take a photographer from Air Force Magazine up for shots of the base flight line from the air. B-52 aircraft from Minot AFB were parked on the ramp due to runway repair at Minot. It's not often you get to see B-52 "Stratofortress" (nicknamed Buff) and B-1 "Lancer" aircraft (nicknamed Bone) together! The sortie took place on 23 September. Col. Mike Beason flew the CAP Cessna-182 where he met the photographer for a 30 minute flight over the flight line. Col. Beason flew over Ellsworth AFB at traffic

pattern altitude, using steep turns to put the Cessna directly overhead B-1 and B-52 aircraft for the photographer. Col. Beason was assisted in the pattern by Ellsworth AFB tower, which was manned by CAP member Lt. Ron Lenz. Ron is a senior controller at Ellsworth AFB and he jumped in to help make the flight a success Article by Lt. Col. Larson and Col. Beason.

- **FEMA SHELTER TRAINING:** By Col. Mary Donley. [Edited] As many of you may be aware, FEMA and the CAP are working to expand our interaction when responding to disasters. Maj. Nancy McKenney and I attended the Field Shelter Guide Training and Point of Distribution (POD) workshops in Salt Lake City, 6/7 September. Saturday was the shelter workshop - how to manage and operate a field shelter. The POD workshop on Sunday was how to plan, operate, and demobilize a POD mission. The class also had lessons on safety, equipment, and resource accountability. The FEMA instructors were knowledgeable and made the training enjoyable by getting us up and around planning our shelters and PODs. We're back and prepared to train SDWG as assets in making sure people and property are protected during a natural disaster that may strike our state or communities.



- **2015 SUMMER ENCAMPMENT HEADS-UP:** The 2015 Joint Dakota Encampment will be held at Camp Rapid in Rapid City from Saturday, 11 July through Sunday, 19 July 2015. Camp Rapid has been used several times for encampment with great success. **Cadets** - Interested in becoming Cadet Commander? Applications for Cadet Commander will be accepted until 1 December 2014. Email Maj. Gengler at nick_gengler@hotmail.com on how to apply. Those interested in Deputy Cadet Commander and Cadet Executive Officer can also contact Maj. Gengler. His goal is to have senior cadet staff filled by the first of the year to allow time for planning and other cadre selection. **Seniors** - Maj. Gengler is looking for help with encampment. Specifically, he would like to select a Commandant of Cadets as soon as possible. If you're interested in that position, or willing to help in another capacity please contact him.

- **SDANG WINS SPAATZ TROPHY:** South Dakota Air National Guard's 114th Fighter Wing was presented the Spaatz Trophy at the 2014 National Guard Association of the U.S. (NGAUS) conference in Chicago on 25 August. The trophy is presented to the most outstanding flying unit in the Air National Guard each year. This is the fourth time the 114th Fighter Wing has won the prestigious award; the last time was in 1988. Selection is based on overall combat readiness and the unit's performance with respect to all Air National Guard flying units. Factors included in the evaluation are flying safety, aircraft operation readiness, weapons firing, unit alerts, unit manning, skill level qualifications, retention, drill attendance, operational readiness inspections, outstanding accomplishments and special missions and exercises. In the photo USAF Brig. Gen. Matthew Jamison, second from left, Assistant Adjutant General for the SDANG and Col. Russ Walz, 114th Fighter Wing Commander, accept the trophy from Lt. Gen. Stanley Clarke III, Director of the Air National Guard (left) and Maj. Gen. Donald Dunbar, NGAUS vice chair for Air and Adjutant General of the Wisconsin National Guard (right).



STAFF NOTES



WING COMMANDER

Col. John Seten, CAP

- I am pleased to announce that Maj. Nick Gengler has accepted the position of Encampment Commander for the 2015 Joint Dakota Encampment. Encampment will be held at Camp Rapid in Rapid City from Saturday, 11 July through Sunday, 19 July 2015.



WING VICE COMMANDER

Lt. Col. Rick Larson, CAP

- **NORTH CENTRAL REGION CONFERENCE**: Des Moines, IA was the site for this year's North Central Region CAP Conference. It kicked off 20 September, as NCR Wing Commanders and their representatives presented yearly overviews of each of the seven Wings' activities and accomplishments. Col. Larry Ragland, CAP NHQ Chief of Staff, addressed the group on behalf of National Commander Maj. Gen. Joe Vasquez. Col. Ragland said the new leadership team is looking to decrease the regulatory footprint in CAP, increase recruiting and retention and develop new CAP missions for America. Wing staff attending included SDWG Commander, Col. John Seten, his wife and SDWG Personnel Officer, Lt. Lori Seten, SDWG Professional Development Officer and past CC, Col. Mary Donley, SDWG Vice Commander, Lt. Col. Rick Larson, and SDWG Cadet Programs Director Lt. Col. Linda Buechler. Cadet members from across the region held a Cadet Advisory Council meeting. C/Maj Joshua Klosterman represented SDWG CAC. At the Saturday evening awards banquet a POW-MIA ceremony was held and Col. Todd paid tribute to long serving CAP members. Receiving awards were SDWG PAO Maj. Bruce Kipp (NCR PAO of the Year) and SDWG Aerospace Education Officer Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese (NCR Frank G. Brewer Memorial Aerospace Lifetime Achievement Award). Col. Seten commented "it's a real testament to the dedication of SDWG's members when we can brief being the top flying hour wing in NCR, have the top national CAP CyberPatriot team and gain top NCR SAR wing honors!"

- **SKYHAWK TO GLASSHAWK**: SD Wing Maintenance Officer, Capt. E.W. Filler got some exciting news this month. After several years of requests, approval was given by NHQ to receive a complete upgrade for one of our Cessna-172 aircraft to the Technologically Advanced Aircraft (TAA) Standard. On 17 September, Capt. Josh Hall and Lt. Ryan Jones, both of Rushmore Composite Squadron, took off in CAP4047, headed to Carson City, NV to drop off the airplane at the upgrade depot. After dealing with a surprise runway closure, the two



delivered the aircraft. It's going to be a real leap forward for the Skyhawk. The Garmin G500, much like its big brother G1000 avionics found in our C182s, feature primary and multifunction displays, coupled with a new Garmin GTN-650 GPS/NavCom allows for more exacting navigation, complex IFR procedures, autopilot linkage and increased situational awareness for crews. The upgrade will also include interior and exterior treatments. It's expected to take up to a year to complete. In the interim, SDWG is working to obtain a spare aircraft from a neighboring North Central Region Wing. The TAA upgrade will mean more training for CAP aircrew. Thanks to Capt. Filler for his tenacity for the project and the dedication and professionalism of the RAP crew for safely delivering the aircraft!



WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP

- I am pleased to announce that Lt. David Stockinger of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron has joined the Wing Public Affairs staff as an Assistant Public Affairs Officer. His primary areas of responsibility will be to manage the wing public affairs photography program and to manage the wing Flickr account.

- I am also pleased to announce that Capt. Lisa Collum of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron has been appointed as the squadron's Public Affairs Officer.



WING DIRECTOR OF CADET PROGRAMS

Lt. Col. Linda Buechler, CAP

- **KENNEDY SPACE CENTER TOUR:** On 13 September, while in Orlando, FL, to attend my son's college graduation, my husband and I toured the Kennedy Space Center. We lunched with Astronaut Susan Kilrain and listened to her experiences as an astronaut. I was able to talk with her about CAP and particularly about the Cadet Program and Drug Demand Reduction Program. She was very interested in the programs and asked that I pass on to the cadets that she encourages you to continue in the programs and strive for the best in their lives and careers. Highlights of our tour included the new Atlantis Shuttle display, close views of the launch Viewing Assembly Building, shuttle vehicle transport, landing field, Saturn 5 museum, and view of the Space X launch pad. I successfully landed the space shuttle simulator on my sixth try (I won't mention what happened on the previous five tries☺).



- **NATIONAL CHARACTER DAY:** SDWG's National Character Day (NCD) program was on 27 September in Pierre. Cadets and seniors arrived from Custer, Pierre, Sioux Falls and Rapid City (11 cadets and 10 seniors). NCD has two main goals: to motivate cadets to take issues of character and honor seriously, and commit to the drug-free ethic; and, to further integrate the Drug Demand Reduction program into CAP's overall Cadet Program. Activities for the event included speakers and a variety of activities. Speakers included Lt. Col. Linda Buechler, Division of Criminal Investigation Officer Don McCrea, and Lt. Col. (Dr.) Mark Huntington.

Those in attendance included:

SD 001: Lt. Col. Linda Buechler, Lt. Col. Mark Huntington, Maj. Nancy McKenney

SD 031: C/Amn Malia Goodrich, C/TSgt Joseph Jagodzinski, C/Amn Noah Misselt, C/MSgt Travis Tenold, C/AB Caleb Weller, C/AB Isaak Weller, Maj. Craig Goodrich, and SM (Capt) Douglas Robbins

SD 038: C/TSgt Hannah Becker, Lt. Col. Myra Christensen, Lt. Jonathan Becker

SD 050: C/SMSgt Josiah Huntington, C/Amn Dylan Purkapile, C/ SMSgt Roblewsky, and Lt. Karen Espeland

SD 068: C/CMSgt Jason Parry, and Lt. V. Bierwirth



LT. COL. HUNTINGTON DISCUSSES MAKING GOOD CHOICES



CADET NATIONAL CHARACTER DAY ATTENDEES

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-058, BROOKINGS)

(Item submitted by Maj. Gengler)

- **SDWG CYBER-WARRIORS PREPARE FOR BATTLE**: Competition will soon begin in CyberPatriot-VII, the premier national cyber-security competition for high school age youth. Once again a cyber-security team from Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings will take part. They compete in the “All Services Division” which is open to CAP teams, Junior ROTC units from the Army, Air Force and Marine Corps and Navy’s Sea Cadets. Last year, in CyberPatriot-VI, the Brookings team came in first of the 320 CAP teams that competed. This year’s Big Sioux CyberPatriot-VII team members are: C/Maj Joshua Klosterman (Team Captain), C/AB Andrew Toft, C/CMSgt Chris Dinnel, C/CMSgt Laura Rudnik, C/MSgt Jaden Petersen, and C/A1C Nathaniel Fleet,. They are coached by Capt. Shannon Hofer and mentored by C/1Lt Tyler Gross. Since June the team has been practicing and is ready for the first round of competition to be held October 24-26. For the past three years Big Sioux’s cyber-security team made it through the three preliminary qualification rounds to reach the national finals. They hope to make it to nationals yet again.

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)

(Items submitted by Lt. K Bierwirth, photo by Ms. Joy Parry)

- **AEROSPACE EDUCATIONS AWARDS**: On 4 September our squadron received a unit award for excellence in Aerospace Education and C/SMSgt Jason Parry and C/TSgt Thomas Dillon each received individual awards for achievements in Aerospace Education. The squadron earned these awards by conducting six hands-on aviation and space-related activities during the school year which included: building rockets out of trash/recyclable materials; building various types of model rockets; studied the effects of meteoroids and space debris at the ISS; studied the protective equipment needed to be worn at the ISS and the difficulties of doing tasks in this protective gear; and completed a two-hour field event by launching Alpha and Tomahawk model rockets. Lt. Vicki Bierwirth was the Aerospace Education instructor for these activities. In the photo: Back: Lt. James Dillon, Lt. Kris Bierwirth, Lt. Col. Doug Westerlund and Maj. Sharon Moad. Front: C/TSgt Thomas Dillon, Lt. Vicki Bierwirth (holding the unit AE Award) and C/SMSgt Jason Dillon.



- **UNITED WAY KICK OFF:** 23 Sept C/SMSgt Jason Parry, C/TSgt Thomas Dillon and Capt. Richard Geeting attended and performed in the United Way Kick off. Our team did well in their performance and our professionalism shined.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-063, SPEARFISH)

(Item and photos submitted by Lt. Col. Hopewell)



- **OPEN HOUSE:** The squadron held an Open House Saturday, 6 September 2014, at the squadron headquarters building at Spearfish airport. The goal was to boost public awareness of the squadron. Two CAP aircraft were on static display. Lt Col Buck DeWeese was on hand to explain the ins and outs of the aircraft to the guests.

The cadets put together several displays such as search and rescue gear, emergency beacon locating equipment, and outdoor living implements. They also displayed radio controlled airplanes and model rockets which they have been working on as squadron aerospace education projects. In preparation for the Open House Capt. Collister repainted the CAP logo on the building and Lt. Col. DeWeese planted flowers.

Former TXWG Mr. Orlan Scott was at the airfield and was attracted to the Open House scenario. He regaled cadets and senior members with numerous stories about CAP and flying from yesteryear. Mr. Scott was so impressed with the demeanor, appearance and enthusiasm of the cadets that just prior to departing he presented Capt. Bill Collister with a generous contribution for the squadron's cadet programs.



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN OPEN HOUSE ACTIVITIES / MR. ORLAN SCOTT PRESENTS A DONATION TO CAPT. COLLISTER

PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-38, PIERRE)

(Item and photo submitted by Lt. Col. Christensen)



- **MOBRIDGE FLY-IN:** The city of Mobridge hosted an open house and "fly-in" on 27 September to show off their airport's recently completed large hanger. Members from the Pierre Composite Squadron, Lt. Col. Myra Christensen and Lt. Jon Becker, flew their CAP Cessna-172 to Mobridge for a static display. There were 18 different aircraft that flew in for the festivities. Included was a pair of RV4's flying in tandem from Madison, a Stearman from Aberdeen, and an Avera medical helicopter. Several individuals stopped by to discuss the purposes of CAP and to see the technology that we are currently using.

RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-031, RAPID CITY)

(Item and photos submitted by Lt. Black)

- **DISASTER AWARENESS AND SAFETY DAY**: On 6 September, Rushmore Composite Squadron senior members and cadets participated in the 6th annual Disaster Awareness and Safety Day, which was organized by Rapid City/Pennington County Emergency Management. The squadron had an information booth and reached out to potential members. There were also games, coloring sheets, and candy for the younger attendees. In the morning of the event, cadets also had a chance to fly the squadron's AE Stem Kit RC aircraft nearby.



LEFT: CAPT. PATRICK NOWLIN AND LT. JAMIE NOWLIN EXPLAIN CAP'S MISSION AND OPPORTUNITIES TO GUESTS.

RIGHT: LT. RACHEL KUECKER PLAYING GAMES AND SPEAKING WITH YOUNG GUESTS AT DISASTER AWARENESS AND SAFETY DAY.

SIOUX FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-050, SIOUX FALLS)

(Items by Lt. Col. Larson, Lt. Espeland, Capt. Schmid, photos by Lt. Espeland)

- **MOULAGE**: Six squadron members took part in an attack response exercise at the 114th Fighter Wing of the South Dakota Air National Guard. Playing the part of injured airmen, they were “moulaged” as victims, simulating injuries sustained as participants in the exercise. Led by Capt. Jerry Foy, himself an ANG veteran, the CAP crew underwent an extreme makeover by ANG medics from the 114th Medical Group. ANG Lt. Col. Larry DeBuhr and his staff were tasked with assessing Guard member's ability to perform self-aid and buddy care throughout the event, held on Saturday, 6 September. That's where the CAP crew came in.

The CAP crew arrived on base and was moulaged with various simulated injuries, ranging from minor to major; burns, lacerations, amputations - all the trappings of a disaster. The crew then broke up into groups led by inspectors who traveled with the "wounded" throughout the base during exercise incidents. The teams presented the "victims" in various work centers, gauging the response to the casualties, and assessing proper procedures to address the injuries. The CAP “victims” were treated by ANG members who learned hands-on procedures. Fortunately, after expert treatment, everyone survived the exercise!



During the day-long event, the CAP crew was treated to a pizza lunch provided by Lt. Col. DeBuhr and a tour of the SDANG Emergency Operations Center, where they saw how complex responses by air assets are managed. Lt. Col. DeBuhr commented that the professionalism of the CAP members aided greatly in the exercise evaluation, and thanked each member for their involvement.



SIoux FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON MOULAGE CREW VISITS THE SDANG EMERGENCY CENTER



- **SIDEWALK ARTS FESTIVAL**: the squadron provided supported the Sioux Falls Sidewalk Arts Festival held downtown on 6 September.

Arriving at 0430, while still dark members set up tents, tables and chairs, and placed garbage and recycling cans throughout the event area.

The one-day festival, a fundraiser for the Visual arts Center of the Washington Pavilion, featured over 225 vendors from more than 10 states, a large food court and live entertainment. 40,000 were expected to attend this annual event.

- **ORIENTATION FLIGHTS**: 6 September was the first flight for Cadet Oscar Holmberg. In fact, this was his first flight in a small aircraft. Under the watchful eye of Capt. Neil Schmid, he successfully piloted the plane from Sioux Falls to Vermillion and landed at Yankton. He's looking forward to future flights in the program. C/SSgt Kyle Kreger flew his fourth powered flight and learned the use of instruments while airborne. After a brief tour of Gavin's Point Dam and sail boat races, he skillfully piloted the Cessna-172 back to Sioux Falls.



C/AB HOLMBERG, CAPT. SCHMID, C/SSGT KREGER



C/SSGT KREGER, CADET HOLMBERG, CAPT. SCHMID

- **SIoux FALLS REGIONAL AIRPORT 75TH ANNIVERSARY:** The Sioux Falls Regional Airport (FAA Designator “FSD”) celebrated its 75th Anniversary on Saturday, 13 September. The airport, opened in 1939, was a major part of the war effort in WWII. At one point there were more troops passing through Sioux Falls than there were residents. So as not to disrupt airport operations the celebration was held at Maverick Air Center. Eight cadets and eight senior members supported the event in two ways. We taxied our two aircraft (Cessna-172 and Cessna-182) to the flight line at Maverick for static display. We also assisted the host, Commemorative Air Forces’ Joe Foss Squadron, with personnel for flight line security and traffic control. It was quite an event. The EAA’s Young Eagles gave free airplane rides to local children. A 1940s’ themed evening hangar dance was



held. A variety of WWII-era and current aircraft were on display as were various pieces of WWII reenactment gear and vehicles. Several state and local VIPs were in attendance as was U.S. Senator John Thune who found time to stop by to chat and pose with C/CMSgt Nicholas Nash, C/SMSgt Jaden Roblewsky and Lt. Scott Kuzinsky. Photos by Lt. Karen Espeland.



FLIGHT LINE SECURITY BRIEFING



SEN. THUNE WITH CADETS NASH, ROBLEWSKI & LT. KUZINSKY

- **COLOR GUARD ACTIVITY:** (1) National POW/MIA Remembrance Day was held at Veterans Park on Friday 19 September. This ceremony is held every year to remember all POW/MIA persons. The color guard presented, posted and retired the colors for a crowd of around 150 veterans, family members, friends and guests. After the event I was approached by at least 15 veterans and congratulated on how professional the cadets were and what a good job they did. This was our second year doing this event. (2) National Special Olympics Truck Convoy is a fund raising event held every year at the W. H. Lyons Fair Grounds. The color guard presented the colors at the opening of the event. This was our third year doing this event.



POW/MIA DAY CEREMONY



NATIONAL SPECIAL OLYMPICS TRUCK CONVOY

★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Jaden Petersen of Big Sioux Composite Squadron on his promotion to their rank of Cadet Master Sergeant and receipt of the Lindbergh Award!



Congratulations to Steven Diaconu of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron and to Zebadiah Nelson of Big Sioux Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Technical Sergeant and receipt of the Captain Eddie Rickenbacker Award!



Cadet Airman Promotions



Congratulations to Graham Dinnel of Big Sioux Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the General Hap Arnold Award!



Congratulations to Salem Pleasants of Big Sioux Composite Squadron and to Oscar Holmberg of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman and receipt of the Curry Award!



★ ★ KUDOS ★ ★



Congratulations to Wing Aerospace Education Officer Lt. Col. Rodney “Buck” DeWeese on receiving the 2013 North Central Region’s Frank G. Brewer Memorial Aerospace Lifetime Achievement award!



Congratulations to Wing Public Affairs Officer Maj. Bruce Kipp on receiving the North Central Region’s Public Affairs Officer of the Year award for 2013!



Congratulations to Capt. James W Speirs who has been assigned Character Development Instructor for the Rushmore Composite Squadron!



Congratulations to SM Melissa K Weller assigned Assistant Professional Development Officer of the Rushmore Composite Squadron. She also completed Level 1 and earned her Membership Ribbon!



Congratulations to Maj. Nick Gengler and wife Hannah on the birth of their son Eli Michael Gengler on 8 September! Mother and Baby Eli are home and doing well.



Congratulations to Lt. Col. Deryl Miles and wife Jamie on the birth of their daughter Faith on 20 September! Mother and Baby Faith are home and doing well.



Congratulations to Cadet Major Joshua Klosterman on his appointment to the Big Sioux Composite Squadron cadet staff as Operations officer!



Congratulations to Lt. Sarah Hill and to Lt. David Small III, both of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, who recently transitioned from cadets to senior members and received advanced promotion to the rank of 1st Lt and were awarded “Technician” rating in Specialty Track - Cadet Programs on the strength of them both having been cadet captains and having earned the Amelia Earhart Award.



Congratulations to CAP Lt. Col. Greg Lair, of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on his promotion to USAF Colonel (O-6) and appointment as commander of the SDANG’s 114th Fighter Wing Operations Group. Col. Lair is a former CAP cadet.

Here’s a picture of Cadet Airman Lair at his first encampment at Fitzsimons Army Medical Center in Aurora, CO. The photo was taken during a tour of Buckley ANGB. Colonel Lair “claims” he doesn’t remember what year this was. [Editor: analysis indicates the photo is likely circa late 1970s]



★ ★ NEW TECHNOLOGY ★ ★



- **FIRE PHASERS:** [Edited] Boeing’s High Energy Laser Mobile Demonstrator (HEL-MD), a tactical military vehicle carrying a directed-energy weapon system, engaged more than 150 aerial targets including mortar rounds, artillery shells, small rockets and remotely piloted aircraft in recent tests at Eglin AFB, Fla. Under windy, rainy, and foggy weather conditions these engagements were the most challenging to date with a 10-kilowatt laser. As proven at White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico in 2013 and at Eglin Air Force Base this spring, HEL-MD is reliable and capable of consistently acquiring, tracking, and engaging a

variety of targets in different environments, demonstrating the potential military utility of directed-energy systems. The next step is to install a 50- or 60-kw laser on the demonstrator to validate its capability at a higher power level.

Source: Air Force Magazine Online for Tuesday 9 September 2014.





“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for October 2014

Official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force - Citizens Serving Communities: Above and Beyond

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WING TIPS

- **REDCAP 14-M-0517**: Late into the evening hours of 9 October, the South Dakota Wing (SDWG) of the Civil Air Patrol searched for an aircraft emergency beacon reportedly in northwest South Dakota. The Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) at Tyndall AFB in Florida alerted SDWG at 3:30pm local time that a satellite picked up an aircraft emergency locator beacon (EPIRB) in the general area of northern Ziebach County. In addition, the Minneapolis Air Traffic Control Center reported that passing aircraft has also picked up an ELT signal. However, the FAA reported no general aviation aircraft were listed as overdue or missing. A Cessna-182T from the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron was dispatched to the area to participate in the search. In addition, a second aircraft, a Cessna-182T departed from the Rushmore Composite Squadron in Rapid City to join in the search. Unable to find the ELT signal both aircraft were recalled to their bases at approximately 9:30pm local time. Two aircraft from CAP's North Dakota Wing (NDWG) also assisted in the search. One of the aircraft flew “high-bird” acting as a communications relay while the other aircraft conducted a “sniffing” search for an ELT signal in the general area. Incident Commander Lt. Col. Rick Larson controlled the search from a mobile command post and was in continuous contact with the aircraft and local authorities.

- **OPERATION WINDMILL**: Towards the end of October, field tests were conducted in the vicinity of the Tyler Minnesota Common Air Route Surveillance radar site near Brookings. The tests were part of an interagency effort to assess wind turbine radar interference mitigation technologies, radar systems calibration, and how wind farms hamper the ability to detect objects in the area. The tests were conducted by Sandia National Laboratories and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Lincoln Laboratory. The test operations included the use of SDWG aviation assets for approximately 48 flight hours. CAP aircraft and crews flew flight operations daily during each field test. Essentially, the CAP aircraft flew around at an assigned altitude and pattern for eight hours a day. SDWG did this mission once before, in 2012. This year Capt. Neil Schmid of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron was project officer.

- **OCTOBER SPLIT SAREX**: SDWG held one of its best search and rescue exercises ever on 11 October. Over 50 Wing members participated in the Split SAREX, either at the Mission Base in Sioux Falls or the Staging Area in Spearfish. Several air sorties were flown and several ground search team missions were conducted. A great deal of training was successfully accomplished for aircrews, mission staff and ground support personnel. The multiple scenarios included air and ground searches for missing aircraft, air and ground searches for missing people, and aerial photography of potential flood areas on a reservoir, a lake, and rivers and creeks. All in all a very successful Saturday. During the course of the SAREX ten air sorties were flown and four ground search sorties were dispatched.



COL. SETEN'S EXERCISE BRIEFING



PREPARING FOR AN AIR SEARCH SORTIE



GROUND SEARCH TEAM IN ACTION

- **JOINT DAKOTAS SLS/CLC IN CUSTER**: On October 18, 2014 Crazy Horse Composite Squadron hosted the Corporate Learning Course (CLC) and Squadron Leadership School (SLS) for members of North and South Dakota Wings. Major Sharon Moad, of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron, directed the SLS for Lt. Ruth Carley of the Pierre Composite Squadron, and Graham Frost, Daniel Villas and Ashley Ehret of the NDWG's 119th Fargo Cadet Squadron. The SLS is part of the Level II program for senior members in CAP. It focuses on training members of a squadron on things like leadership, communication, professionalism and the workings of a squadron. All senior members need this course to complete Level II and be eligible for promotion and awards. Col. Mary Donley, SDWG Professional Development Officer, directed the CLC with the help of Col. Mike Beason who taught some of the modules. The CLC was attended by Lt. Kris Bierwirth, Lt. Victoria Bierwirth, Capt. Richard Geeting of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron and Capt. John Hoeck, Squadron Commander of the 119th Fargo Cadet squadron. The CLC is part of the Level III program for senior members of CAP. The course discusses the relationship of the CAP squadron has with the next major echelon of command -- the wing. Specifically, CLC discusses how wing-level operations help to accomplish CAP's three missions of aerospace education, emergency services, and cadet programs. It describes the working relationships wing staff officers have with each other and their squadron level counterparts. All seniors need this course to complete Level III and be eligible for promotions and awards. If any senior members have questions about Professional Development do not hesitate to contact me at: mfdonley@gmail.com. My goal is to see senior members progress in the areas of their specialty tracks, and get the awards and promotions they deserve. Article submitted by Col. Mary Donley.



- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS**: SDWG flew aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife on 4 days in September and on 6 days in October in support of the state Department of Game, Fish & Parks and the South Dakota State University. GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. The resulted in 13.6 flight hours in September and 24.91 flight hours in October for a total of 38.51 flying hours over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. CAP pilots for the flights were Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese and Lt. Col. Gary Hewett. Depending on whom the sortie supported they were accompanied by either Mr. Brandon Tycz from SDSU or by Ms. Paige Mueggenberg or Ms. Lauren Wiechman from GF&P.

- **CAP VOLUNTEER MAGAZINE:** The October-December issue of *Civil Air Patrol Volunteer*, CAP's premier quarterly magazine, is available in digital format at http://www.capvolunteernow.com/cap_volunteer/. In addition to the cover story about CAP's hot air balloon program, there is coverage from the 2014 National Conference in Las Vegas, as well as features on two search and rescue missions – one earlier this year in California and another 70 years ago in Vermont. Be sure to check out the Mary Feik Cadet Officer School video on page 13 and the balloon chase crew video on page 45.

- **WMIRS 2.0 UPDATE:** WMIRS 2.0 is getting better every day. The National Staff keeps working on it and is updating us weekly on the progress. I am sure by the time of our next SAREX in January we will have a fully operational WMIRS to utilize. Submitted by Maj. Gengler.

- **CAP AT SANFORD HEALTH/FAMILY SAFETY FESTIVAL:** On 11 October, Lt. Karen Espeland and Lt. Col. Linda Buechler had a booth at the Sanford Health/Safety Family Festival held at First Presbyterian Church in Sioux Falls. Over 200 children and their parents stopped at the booth to participate in the activities of "Walk the Line" and "Dart Board" while wearing Fatal Vision (aka drunk) goggles. The children received red ribbons as well as bookmarks and pencils. Designated Driver stickers were handed out to adults. Numerous pamphlets were available for parents to take as information about drug awareness. A drug paraphernalia display case was available for parents to see the types of drugs available to their children. Parent comments included: "I didn't know there was this many drugs in communities". Of particular interest was how a 5 year old kindergartener could be the youngest dealer if their parents are involved in meth and how they would dip a candy necklace or bracelet in meth and the child would take it to school to share with their friends. Thanks to Lt. Espeland for reaching out to the community and offering CAP as one of the booth participants. This was a highly successful activity. Recruitment was also done and CAP brochures handed out to those interested in the program.



STAFF NOTES



WING COMMANDER

Col. John Seten, CAP

Congratulations to Rushmore Composite Squadron and Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on being named to CAP's list of "Quality Cadet Unit" for 2013-2014! On 10 October Mr. Steven Trupp, Program Manager for Cadet Programs at NHQ announced that 299 units had earned the title "Quality Cadet Unit". The squadrons will receive award certificates in the next few weeks.



WING RECRUITING/RETENTION OFFICER

Col. Mary Donley, CAP

Greetings from your Wing Recruiting and Retention Officer! I hope to be more vocal, visible and available to all the units and members in this position. South Dakota Wing as well as units and wings throughout the nation are seeing a downward trend in membership in recent years. We here in South Dakota have also see the closure of former units that were once active and thriving! What's the answer to changing this downslide into an upside? In the last few months we were given some insight by NHQ of the responses in out-briefings from members who chose not to renew. With cadets it was things like transitioning to college, change of interests, jobs, etc. But there were also comments like: meetings were boring, not organized, no activities and cliques with some bullying involved (I hope the last is not true in SDWG)! For senior members most reasons given were things like: I got too busy, too much responsibility given without proper guidance, too little responsibility given, I was ignored, too many hoops to jump through, etc. Does any of this relate to your squadron?? Do you see a trend of people joining then disappearing? Take a look at what you are doing to attract new members and then take a really hard look at what you are doing to KEEP those members. It's time for each squadron to sit down and come up with a plan for Recruiting and Retention! I have tool to help you to do that. NHQ has put out a new pamphlet for units to do just that. As we near the end of 2014 this is the perfect time to start the planning for 2015. The link to How to Create a Recruiting Plan is: www.capmembers.com/recruiting. This is the blog page for recruiting and you will see a pdf symbol on the right hand side called: How to Create a Recruiting Plan. This has a well laid out month by month plan for your squadron to follow starting with an assessment of where you are now and where you want to be a year from now! Try it out and don't hesitate to contact me with questions, concerns and ideas! Together we can stop the downslide and grow!

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-058, BROOKINGS)

(Item submitted by Capt. Hofer and Maj. Gengler)



CyberPatriot-VII competition Round One was the weekend of 24-26 October. Of the 1,007 teams competing in the All Services Division our cyber-warriors scored in the top five teams. The competition is getting tougher and tougher each year! CAP competes in the "All Services Division" (Army, Air Force, Navy Marine Corps JROTC, Naval Sea Cadet Corps, and CAP). This year there are 400 teams from CAP alone. Round Two will be held 14-16 November.

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)

(Items submitted by Lt. K. Bierwirth)

- We gained one new cadet this month, Welcome Aboard to Anthony Dillon!
- Our squadron is getting tongue-tied with all the duplicate and triplicate last names, but as a commander that really comes in handy. I only have to call four different last names and I get all of my squadron's attention. Check out senior member promotions for this month.

★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

Senior Member Promotions



Congratulations to Joyce Jeffries of the Rushmore Composite Squadron and to Nancy McKenney of the Wing Staff on their promotion to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel!



Congratulations to David Small III of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of First Lieutenant! David received accelerated promotion to this grade on the merit of his Earhart Award earned as a cadet



Congratulations to Justin Bierwirth of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Second Lieutenant!

Cadet Officer Promotions



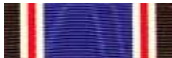
Congratulations to Nicholas Nash of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, to Chris Dinnel of Big Sioux Composite Squadron, and to Bradley Blansett of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Second Lieutenant and receipt of the milestone Billy Mitchell Award!



Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Levi Woodard of the Rushmore Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Chief Master Sergeant and receipt of the Goddard Award!



Cadet Airman Promotions



Congratulations to Nicholas Kochutin of the Rushmore Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!



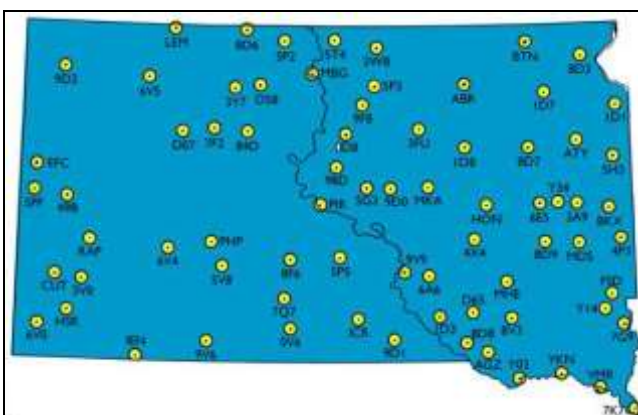
Congratulations to Caleb Weller and Isaak Weller, both of Rushmore Composite Squadron, to Margot Pearson of the Pierre Composite Squadron, and to Andrew Toft of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman and receipt of the Curry Award!



★ ★ KUDOS ★ ★

Congratulations to Capt. Neil Schmid of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on attaining a significant aviation achievement on 29 October! Neil, flying a SDWG aircraft, completed his "Passport South Dakota Gold Level Award". The program, which began in 2010, is sponsored by the South Dakota Pilots Association to promote general aviation within the state. The program involves attendance at aviation safety seminars, visiting South Dakota museums with aviation displays and to land at SD public airports. Neil completed that requirement with

stops at Belle Fourche, Spearfish, Sturgis, Philip, Kadoka and Presho. The Gold Level Award requires the Neil have landed at all 74 of the public-use airports in the state, attend four air safety seminars and visit four South Dakota museums with aviation-related displays. The Passport South Dakota Award consists of an “I Flew South Dakota” patch and, for the gold level, a “74 Airports” tab for wear on his flight gear.



LEFT: CAPT. SCHMID IN THE COMMAND SEAT OF THE CAP AIRCRAFT IN WHICH HE COMPLETED HIS GOLD LEVEL AWARD
 CENTER: MAP OF ALL SEVENTY-FOUR S.D. AIRPORTS AT WHICH CAPT. SCHMID LANDED TO EARN THE GOLD LEVEL AWARD
 RIGHT: THE FLY SOUTH DAKOTA GOLD LEVEL AWARD PATCH AND TAB FOR WEAR ON CIVILIAN FLIGHT JACKET

★ Congratulations to Lt. Col. Greg Lair and Lt. Jerry Hayden, both of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on achieving the status of CAP Mission Pilot. As Mission Pilots they are now authorized to fly all Air Force assigned missions, all CAP corporate missions and missions for CAP requested by an external agency. To achieve this status they had to accomplish over 80 tasks such as number of flying hours and types of flights, complete all mission scanner tasks and tasks for search and rescue and drug demand reduction pilots.

★ Maj. Sharon Moad of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron has been selected as one of 60 National Red Cross Shelter Prototype Evaluators, the only one in South Dakota. Her duties encompass evaluating the services and processes offered in a Red Cross shelter. She will also evaluate procedures for Red Cross Service Center workers and clients in determining the need for financial assistance. Maj. Moad views her new responsibilities as an opportunity with honor and pride to represent South Dakota and Civil Air Patrol.

★ ★ CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL UPDATE ★ ★

October 9, 2014. By Michael Zielinski [Edited]: At a recent meeting the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed designs for the Congressional Gold Medal to be issued honoring the World War II members of the Civil Air Patrol and provided their recommendations. The United States Mint provided a total of 16 different obverse design candidates and 15 different reverse design candidates for the medal.



From the candidates, the CFA recommended obverse design alternative #15 as the most elegant composition and most illustrative of the range of duties and people involved in the Civil Air Patrol. The design features the CAP roundel at center, dividing the space into three equal segments which represent the pilots, the support crews, and the CAP mission itself. At the left are two CAP pilots in profile. To the right, a ground support crew prepares a plane for its mission. At the bottom is a depiction of one of the many important missions undertaken by the CAP.



For the reverse, the CFA recommended design alternative #4, which contains a laurel wreath representing honor and service, surrounding CAP insignias. The inscriptions read “Honor Civilian Volunteers Who Flew Combat & Humanitarian Missions” and “Act of Congress 2014”. The CFA suggested careful consideration of typefaces so the pairing of the obverse and reverse result in a well-composed medal.

At a separate meeting, the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC) was also given the opportunity to review the same slate of design candidates for the WWII CAP CGM. The CCAC had recommended design alternative #14 for the obverse, which depicts two CAP pilots with the CAP roundel shown above. At the base of the design, an armed single-engine CAP aircraft is shown lifting off from the runway. For the reverse, the CCAC recommended alternative #3, which features the CAP insignia with inscriptions ‘Eyes of the Home Skies’ and “Act of Congress 2014”.



The responsibility to select the final designs for the medal rests with the Secretary of the Treasury.

Source: <http://news.coinupdate.com/cfa-recommends-designs-for-wwii-civil-air-patrol-congressional-gold-medal-4511/>, accessed 9 October 2014





“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for November 2014

Official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force - Citizens Serving Communities: Above and Beyond

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WING TIPS

CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL PRESENTATION: The Speaker of the U.S. House, the Hon. John Boehner, announced that the presentation ceremony for the CAP Congressional Gold Medal will be on 10 December at 3:00 pm in the Statuary Hall of the U.S. Capitol. During the bipartisan, bicameral ceremony presided over by Speaker Boehner, Senate Majority Leader Reid, Senate Republican Leader McConnell, and House Democratic Leader Pelosi, the Civil Air Patrol will be presented with a Congressional Gold Medal to collectively honor CAP's founding members, whose valor and dedication during World War II helped thwart the enemy and save lives. There will be a gala dinner celebration that evening for veterans, family members, CAP members and distinguished guests at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in nearby Crystal City. A bronze replica medal will be presented to each CAP WWII veteran or to a member of the family if the veteran is deceased, during the dinner. South Dakota has three individuals who will receive the bronze replica medal posthumously.

REDCAP ON 30 NOVEMBER 2014: Late in the evening of 29 November the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Tyndall AFB, Florida notified the South Dakota Wing and the Wyoming Wing of the Civil Air Patrol that an aircraft was overdue to return to Spearfish, SD. Poor weather conditions prevented the launch of an immediate search that night. Around 6:00am on Sunday a ground search team was dispatched from CAP's Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron (Spearfish) to Colony, WY which cell phone forensics indicated as a possible search site. Later that morning three aircraft; two from South Dakota Wing and one from Wyoming Wing, were launched to conduct an aerial search for the missing aircraft's emergency beacon (ELT). Using special onboard sensors the CAP aircraft began picking up the ELT signal and worked to refine the location. About one hour later, using aerial triangulation, a Wyoming Wing aircraft sighted the missing aircraft on the ground in a snow-covered high desert area near the tiny town of Alzada, MT. The ground search team was re-directed from Colony to Alzada where they linked up with officers from the Carter County Sheriff's Office. While the ground team was en route, WYWG and SDWG aircraft took turns orbiting the crash site to direct the ground team to the location. Once Carter County Sheriff Office personnel were at the crash site the

SDWG ground team and both wing's aircraft returned to their bases. The outstanding support for the REDCAP was provided by personnel from Rushmore Composite Squadron, Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron and Wing Staff members throughout the state.



IN THE PHOTOS THE CAP GROUND SEARCH TEAM WORKS TO SECURE THE CRASH SITE. PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE CARTER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS**: SDWG flew aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife on 5 days in November in support of the Department of Game, Fish & Parks and South Dakota State University. GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. The result was 15.7 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. CAP pilot for the flights was Lt. Col. Gary Hewett. Depending on whom the sortie supported they were accompanied by either Mr. Brandon Tycz from SDSU (6 flying hours) or by Ms. Lauren Wiechman from GF&P (9.7 flying hours).

- **UPCOMING SPLIT SAREX**: SDWG Director of Operations Maj. Nicholas Gengler advises that 23-25 January there will be another Split SAREX across the Wing. Not sure on exact locations yet.

- **NCR AEROSPACE EDUCATION WEEKEND**: On the weekend of 22-23 November, the North Dakota Wing's 119th Air National Guard Cadet Squadron in Fargo hosted a North Central Region Aerospace Education



Weekend. Cadets and senior members from NDWG, SDWG and MNWG participated. The weekend went fairly well and the cadets had a great time. NDWG provided presentations by NDSU students in Aerospace fields. Among the highlights were a tour to the Aerospace Museum in Fargo and the Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile Site. The cadets also had the opportunity to try out flight simulators. O-rides also took place although there were some delays due to icing and flat tires. Most cadets got to go up but, unfortunately not everyone. The eight SDWG cadets got one o-ride each. Many thanks to Maj. Gengler for heading up the SDWG contingent. In the photo provided by Lt. Col. Larson a museum docent briefs the cadets of the WWII-era P-51 Mustang fighter aircraft.

- **SDWG OUTSTANDING RED CROSS VOLUNTEER**: On 12 November, Wing staff member Lt. Col. Nancy McKenney was called out by the Red Cross to support shelter operations for victims of a hotel fire in Pierre. Some 35 families and individuals lost their homes, their belongings, and some their jobs. Leaving behind everything but what they were wearing they ran out into 10 degree weather and blowing wind. The Red Cross opened a warming center at a local middle school. When it was decided that the event was going to require longer term care a shelter was set up at the First United Methodist Church of Pierre. Over the next several days the Red Cross worked with several agencies and found everyone an apartment. The shelter closed the following

Saturday. She commented, "We returned home Saturday tired but happy with what we accomplished." On 23 November, she was again called out by the Red Cross, this time to go to Buffalo, in upstate New York in the aftermath of the monster snow storm and, as the temperatures warmed up, with possible flooding. Her job was to keep track of all the shelters to make sure they had everything needed like cots, blankets, food and staff.



McKenney said. "When you go into a disaster, you never know when you get there what you are going to have left standing." Over the weekend, 65 people spent the night at the shelter. She originally expected to be there for 2 to 3 weeks with the possibility of a longer stay. However, by the 28th the news was great. Everyone was back in their homes or in a hotel and the flooding had not materialized to the extent that the people would need sheltering. The Red Cross continues to help the families but her job was done so she came home. She commented, "I was glad to go to help but glad to be home."

STAFF NOTES



WING COMMANDER

Col. John Seten, CAP

- SDWG has signed up for a survey/poll web service. Question Pro is at www.questionpro.com/. Once there you can log in with the credentials that have been disseminated. Thanks to Lt. Col. Miles for suggesting this website. As a non-profit we received a free upgrade to the pro version. Please put this to use as this is a great way to obtain feedback from our members and help us to improve our wing.
- On 17 November, Col. Seten gave a presentation on the Civil Air Patrol to the Sioux Falls Rotary Club. He was accompanied by Lt. Col. Rick Larson, Capt. Jason Erickson and Capt. Neil Schmid who helped answer questions following the presentation. Later that day Col. Seten and Lt. Col. Larson met with members of the Sioux Falls chapter of the American Red Cross.
- I'm pleased to announce Wing Historian Maj. Todd Epp has agreed to take on the added responsibility as the Wing's Government Relations Advisor.
- I'm also pleased to announce that Maj. Bruce Kipp has been appointed Assistant Wing Historian.



WING DIRECTOR OF AEROSPACE EDUCATION

Lt. Col. Rodney "Buck" DeWeese, CAP

- Attention all pilots, Aerospace Education Officers and squadron commanders! The Teacher Orientation Program (TOP), formerly the "Fly-a-Teacher Program," is alive and well with new funding for FY 2015. TOP provides the opportunity for teachers to experience orientation flights in CAP aircraft. Teachers can receive these orientation flights following optional workshops at local area airports and can then share their experiences with their students. Sign them up as an Aerospace Education Member (AEM) and they get one free hour of flying. This is a great recruiting tool as well for Middle School teachers and their students.



WING DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Capt. Jerry Gabert, CAP

- For those of you that do not know me allow me to introduce myself. I am Captain Jerry Gabert and have recently taken over as the SDWG Director of Communications. I have been a member of CAP since August of 2011. I have been in the radio communications industry for 34 years with 22 of that being with the State of SD.

My goals for the SDWG communications program are to improve it wherever we can. In recent months and years we have replaced antennas and made repairs on CAP repeaters at Sioux Falls, Turkey Ridge and White. We are working on replacing the antenna for the Pierre CAP repeater. I want to continue this work where needed in other parts of the state as time permits. I also would like to see every squadron have at least one VHF base radio and preferably two.

Recently we've had a welcome increase of SDWG members involved in the CAP HF radio program. Until recently Lt. Col. David Jefferies (Callsign: Grasslands-44) was our only active HF station. Lt. Col. Jefferies travels south in the winter but still participates from his mobile HF radio when he can. On a recent National CAP HF Net we had five SDWG stations involved. Those involved were Captain Collister (Callsign: Grasslands-631) of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, Lt. Col. Jefferies (Grasslands-44), and Major Craig Goodrich (Callsign: Grasslands-311) of the Rushmore Composite Squadron, Lt. Dravland (Callsign: Grasslands-386) of the Pierre Composite Squadron and myself Callsign: Grasslands-4 from Sioux Falls Composite Squadron. I look forward to continuing to work with all of you in the future. I have set up a new and hopefully easy to remember email address for wing communications, it is sdwingcomm@gmail.com.

Hope you all have a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year.

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-058, BROOKINGS)

(Item by Lt. Hofer and Maj. Gengler)

- **CYBERPATRIOT-VII ROUND TWO:** Team "Big Sioux" made it through Round Two and into the State Round and Platinum Tier. All CyberPatriot teams participate in the State Round but only the Platinum Tier can advance to the national finals. After talking with other team's coaches we agreed that this year's Round Two was more difficult than the previous year's Round Three (the round that used to get you into the national finals). Only the top third of teams move into the Platinum Tier. The top six teams move from the State Round to the Regional Round and from there only the top two teams in each category (CAP/ROTC) go to the national finals. We had our hands full and forgot to get pictures again. The State Round runs 5-7 December.



- **VETERAN'S DAY:** On 11 November, the Big Sioux Color Guard presented Flags representing each branch of service for the Veteran's Day Ceremony put on by the Brookings VFW and the American Legion at the Swiftel Center. Those involved are C/Maj Joshua Klosterman, C/Capt Tyler Gross, C/Lt Chris Dinnel, C/SrA Nathaniel Fleet, C/MSgt Jaden Petersen, and C/SrA Graham Dinnel.

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)

(Items and photos by Lt. K. Bierwirth)

- **CADET THESPIAN HITS THE BOARDS:** C/CMSgt Jason Parry performed in Custer High School's play "The Beatles Slept Here" in the role of Detective Johnny B. Goode. The squadron attended the play to support our cadet thespian and do some recruiting. We were in the audience wearing gray CAP tee-shirts and cheering on our Cadet Commander!
- **WELCOME ABOARD:** We are pleased to welcome our Hunter Rice as our newest cadet! We are pleased that you have joined Civil Air Patrol and proud you are a member of our squadron.
- **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA:** Our squadron has been active around Custer and Hot Springs selling sponsorships for the Wreaths Across America program.
- **SQUADRON OUTREACH:** Lt. Kris Bierwirth did a presentation about CAP for the Zonta International Group in Custer.



- **WINTER SURVIVAL TRAINING:** Our cadets worked on their winter survival skills during our recent snow storm and made pine branch snow shoes and built a fire to keep warm. In the photo Cadet Airman Anthony Dillon wears field expedient snowshoes he constructed.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-063, SPEARFISH)

(Item by Maj D. Small)

- See the Wing Tips item above on the squadron's ground search team participation in the REDCAP on 30 November. Our ground search team was first at the crash site arriving ahead of the members of the Clark County Sheriff's Office. We are very proud of the dedication and the professionalism displayed by the members of this eight-man team operating under very trying weather conditions in very rugged terrain.

PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-38, PIERRE)

(Item and photos by Lt. Col. Gatje)



- **CHRISTMAS AT THE CAPITOL:** Members of the squadron met at the state capitol building on Saturday, 22 November to decorate a Civil Air Patrol Christmas tree for the "Christmas at the Capitol" display held each year in the South Dakota Capitol Building. This year's theme commemorates the 125th Anniversary of statehood for South Dakota. Although the number of trees is limited, this year's display includes over 90 trees decorated by individuals and organizations from across the state. The Grand Lighting Ceremony took place on 25 November after a welcome, introduction and Christmas wishes from Governor Dennis Daugaard and First Lady Linda Daugaard. It is prestigious to be allowed to place a tree in the capitol and the display will be visited by thousands of people during the open house dates. This year the public can view the trees daily from 26 November through 27 December between from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. This is the 34th Annual Christmas at the Capitol. Admission is free. It is handicap accessible. Members helping to decorate the tree included Lt. Col. Myra Christensen, Lt. Col. Tam Gatje, Capt. Richard Helton, Maj. Lee Vaughan, Lt. Roberta Vaughan, Lt. Ruth Carley, Lt. Jonathan

Becker and C/Amn Margot Pearson. The Pierre Composite Squadron invites all members and families and friends to tour Christmas at the Capitol and see the squadron tree. It is toward the west end on the second floor.



LEFT: MAJ. LEE VAUGHAN AND LT. COL. MYRA CHRISTENSEN MAKE FINAL ADJUSTMENTS TO DECORATIONS ON THE CAP TREE
RIGHT: A HALLWAY IN THE CAPITOL BUILDING WITH TEAMS STILL DECORATING THEIR TREES, THE CAP TREE IS AT FAR LEFT

RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-031, RAPID CITY)

(Item by Maj. Goodrich & Lt. Kuecker)



- **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA:** Our big fundraiser for this year is off to a good start. A big thanks to Cadets Noah Misslet, Nick Kochutin, Jonathan Busch, and Jamie Nowlin for making it to Cabela's on the 8th. We sold 41 wreaths, took orders online for another 5 and received several cash donations. We hope to have several more wreath sales before the end of November. On the 22nd we sold 40 wreaths at Scheels. Thanks to Col. Mike Beason, SM Andy Weathers and his wife Trish (she sold six on the phone while making copies of order forms) and to Cadets Errol Kelly, Jonathan Busch, Dalton Mann, Samuel Lawrence, and Noah Misselt. On the 29th we had about 10 people show up to sell wreath sponsorships at Black Hills Bagels, West Side Family Thrift Center, and Boyd's Drug in Rapid City. On 13 December we will lay the wreaths at the Black Hills National Cemetery.



PHOTO-1: SM ROY WELLER AND C/AMN CALEB WELLER

PHOTO-2: C/AMN MALIA GOODRICH, C/AMN CALEB WELLER

PHOTO-3: C/AMN ISAAK WELLER AND C/MSGT LEVI WOODARD

PHOTO-4: C/AMN ISAAK WELLER, C/MSGT LEVI AND SM TRAVIS WOODARD

SIoux FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-050, SIoux FALLS)

(Items and photos by Capt. Erickson)

- **SCOUTS VISIT THE SQUADRON:** Cub Scouts from Dell Rapids had an aerospace adventure in Sioux Falls the evening of 24 November. Some 13 boys and their parents made the trip to the Sioux Falls airport in the cold and dark where Capt. Jason Erickson showed the scouts and their parents the squadron's Cessna-182

aircraft. Fortunately they had a well-lit, heated hangar to learn about CAP. Capt. Erickson powered up the G1000 avionics suite before the group arrived and programed a search pattern over Dell Rapids on the aircraft display. After giving a brief demonstration of how the control surfaces of an aircraft work and what they do, the real fun began. The scouts got to take turns in the “driver seat” inside the aircraft. With so many, and an airplane that only seats four, they had to work in shifts. Although not entirely orderly at times, Capt. Erickson managed to herd all of them through and explain how that search pattern may look over top of their hometown. The parents asked a lot of great questions about the aircraft and CAP. While these scouts were all 6 to 8 years old, Capt. Erickson didn’t miss the opportunity to plant the “future member” seed with all present. Hopefully he stirred the aviation bug in some of them and we look forward to their joining CAP when they turn 12!



- **AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER TOUR:** On 15 November, the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron took part in a unique Aerospace Education outing. Over 30 cadets and seniors toured the Sioux Falls Air Traffic Control facility. This was great opportunity to see “behind the curtain”. The morning of the tour Sioux Falls experienced its first significant snow of the season; ceilings were low, visibility short, and both our beloved CAP vans needed a jumpstart. Who said we don’t overcome adversity? Vans jumpstarted, heaters ablaze, we piled in for three shifts, the top of each hour starting at 0900.



ATC Tower Director Mr. Robert Huggins and his crew were awesome tour guides. We were briefed on the main floor of the facility about many air traffic control workings within the building. In addition to the control tower “cab” up top, our facility in Sioux Falls contains a radar room, called a TRACON, and many offices for FAA staff that work in our area. Next stop on the tour the climb to the top to see the controllers in action. It was a great day to tour because we got to see all facets of their job with the snow and low visibility: directing snow plowing equipment, handling ground ops for departing and arriving planes, dealing with IFR spacing for incoming and outgoing traffic, and keeping track of overfly traffic at the flight levels. It can get very busy, very quickly for the controllers especially when the weather is rough. Our thanks to the gracious crew at the Sioux Falls Air Traffic Control Facility for their time on a Saturday. We look forward to doing it again in a few years with a new group of cadets.

- **ORIENTATION FLIGHT:** The cold weather on 22 November finally took a break, which turned out to be a great day for an o-ride piloted by Capt. Neil Schmid. This day was the first flight in any kind of airplane for C/AB Eric Ortega (left) and he enjoyed every minute of the one hour flight from Sioux Falls to Yankton. After a rest stop in Yankton, C/A1C Chris Schuppan (right) flew the Cessna-172 from Yankton airport to the Gavin’s



Point Dam and around the lake. There were hundreds of geese floating in the lake, enjoying the warm sunshine. On the return leg to Sioux Falls, Chris flew the advanced flight maneuvers described in syllabus 8/3rd powered orientation flight. These maneuvers demonstrated slow flight, steep turns, s-turns, and search patterns used in SAR. There was a discussion of stalls, steep spirals, spins and load factors affecting the aircraft.

- **PARADE OF LIGHTS:** On 28 November, 22 members of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron and the Big Sioux Composite Squadron jointly supported the annual holiday Parade of Lights held in downtown Sioux Falls. They emplaced and recovered do-not-park signs along the nine-block parade route, provided control and assistance at the disabled/handicapped parking lot, manned a warm room where disabled/handicapped were able to view the parade, provided crowd control along the parade route, and helped clean up afterwards.



★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

Senior Member Promotions



Congratulations to James Dillon of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron on promotion to the rank of Captain! He is active in the squadron as the Deputy Commander for Seniors, IT Officer, Recruiting and Retention Officer, Testing Officer, Assistant AE Officer and Assistant Communications Officer.

Cadet Officer Promotion



Congratulations to Tyler Gross of Big Sioux Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Captain and receipt of the milestone Amelia Earhart Award!



Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Blake Hayden of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Master Sergeant and receipt of the General Jimmy Doolittle Award!



Cadet Airman Promotions



Congratulations to Graham Dinnel of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!



Congratulations to Christopher Schuppan of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the General Hap Arnold Award!



Congratulations to Anthony Dillon, Crazy Horse Composite Squadron, to Jonathan Busch and Samuel Lawrence, Rushmore Composite Squadron, and Robert Boecker and Kristin Lerdal of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman and receipt of the Curry Award!

★ ★ KUDOS ★ ★



Congratulations to Maj. Sharon Moad of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron on earning “Senior” level rating in the Specialty Track – Public Affairs!



Congratulations to Capt. Richard Geeting of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron on earning Technician level in specialty track - Finance in the Senior Member Professional Development Program!



Congratulations to SM Travis Woodard on completing Level-1 of the Senior Member Professional Development Program and on his assignment as Information technology Officer for the Rushmore Composite Squadron!



Congratulations to SM Tim Shannon on completing Level-1 of the Senior Member Professional Development Program and on his assignment as Aerospace Education Officer for the Rushmore Composite Squadron!



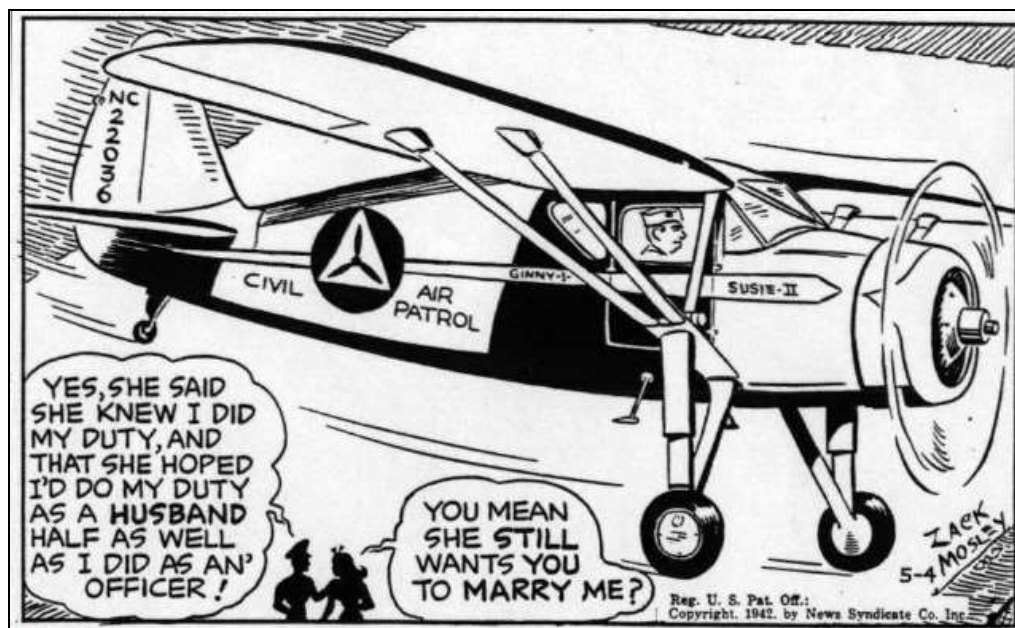
Congratulations to SM Roy Weller on completing Level-1 of the Senior Member Professional Development Program and on his assignment as assistant Deputy Commander for Cadets for the Rushmore Composite Squadron!

★ ★ WWII-ERA CAP CAPTAIN ZACK MOSLEY ★ ★

Zack Mosley (1906-1993) was an American comic strip artist best known for the aviation adventures in his long-running *The adventures of Smilin' Jack* which ran in more than 300 newspapers from 1933 to 1973. But, did you know Zack Mosley was also one of the founding members of the Civil Air Patrol, a highly decorated one as well? He was one of the heroic pilots who flew anti-submarine patrols on the U.S. east coast.



CITATION FOR THE AWARD OF THE AIR MEDAL PRESENTED CAP CAPTAIN ZACK MOSLEY BY PRESIDENT HARRY TRUMAN



ONE OF SEVERAL COMICS ZACK MOSLEY DREW WITH A CAP THEME





“THE SKYCHASER”

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WING TIPS



CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL PRESENTATION: On 10 December, at a ceremony in Statuary Hall at the U.S. Capitol a Congressional Gold Medal (CGM) was presented to collectively honor World War II members of the Civil Air Patrol whose valor and dedication during the war helped thwart the enemy submarine attacks against our vital shipping lines, saved lives, secured our nation's borders, conducted missions to support the war effort, and helped train members of the armed forces.

Presided over by House Speaker Boehner, Senate Majority Leader Reid, Senate Republican Leader McConnell, and House Democratic Leader Pelosi, the CGM was accepted by Col. Lester Wolff, a WWII CAP subchaser and former U.S. representative from New York and by CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Joe Vazquez. The gold medal will be placed on permanent display in the Smithsonian Institution.

Later that evening at a gala dinner celebration was held for surviving veterans, families of deceased members, CAP members and distinguished guests in nearby Crystal City. Maj. Gen. Vazquez personally presented a bronze replica medal to each CAP WWII veteran or to a member of the family of a deceased veteran.



South Dakota has four who will receive the bronze replica medal; Mrs. Sylvia Henkin, a resident of Sioux Falls, and three deceased individuals – Luverne “Vern” Kraemer, Vernon Jeffries, and Earl Wilkinson. Mrs. Henkin and a member of Jeffries and Wilkinson families will receive the bronze replica medal at ceremonies to be held in South Dakota. Mrs. Norma Kraemer, widow of Vern Kraemer, travelled to Washington, D.C. for the ceremony and was presented her husband’s bronze replica medal by Gen. Vazquez.

In the photo Mrs. Norma Kraemer is presented with her husband’s medal by CAP National Commander Gen. Vazquez at the evening dinner celebration. North Central Region Commander Col. Robert Todd is in the foreground.



THE CIVIL AIR PATROL CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

- **2015 JOINT DAKOTAS ENCAMPMENT:** Encampment Commander Maj. Nick Gengler sends: “I am pleased to announce that C/Maj. Joshua Klosterman has accepted the role of Cadet Commander for the 2015 Joint Dakota Encampment. I know Joshua is as excited as I am and together we will strive for excellence at the encampment at Camp Rapid. He will be reviewing applications for cadet executive staff in the coming days. After cadet executive staff positions are filled applications will opened up for Line and Support Staff. I am still looking for Seniors to join me at this Encampment so if any Seniors would like to participate please email me.”

- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS**: SDWG flew aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife on the 3rd, 5th, 10th, 19th, 30th and 31st of December in support of the state Department of Game, Fish & Parks and South Dakota State University. GF&P surveyed deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveyed elk and bobcats. The result was 18.5 hours for GF&P and 7.2 hours for SDSU for a total of 25.7 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. CAP pilot for the flights was Lt. Col. Gary Hewett. Depending on whom the sortie supported he was accompanied by Ms. Lauren Wiechman from GF&P or Mr. Brandon Tycz of SDSU.

- **SPLIT SAREX 23-25 JANUARY**: Director of Operations Maj. Nicholas Gengler reminds everyone that there will be another Split SAREX on 23-25 January. Mission bases will be at Big Sioux Composite Squadron HQ in Brookings and Rushmore Composite Squadron HQ in Rapid City.

- **WEST RIVER CHRISTMAS PARTY**: Nearly fifty CAP members and family gathered in Piedmont for a Christmas party on Saturday, 20 December. Though most in attendance came from the Black Hills squadrons, Capt. Marsha Sumpter and Maj. Lee Vaughan came all the way from Philip. Maj. Craig Goodrich started things off by playing familiar holiday tunes on the piano. Later Col. Mike Beason and 2nd Lt. Jack Jensen added to the festive spirit with a hand-bell serenade. SM Melissa Weller and C/2nd Lt Jared Doyle kept the piano music going throughout the evening. Food was abundant and fellowship spirited. Lt. Col. Gary Hewett challenged C/Col William Small to a game of pool and succeeded in pulling off a narrow win. Cadets enjoyed the warm outdoor weather. All in all it was a relaxing evening renewing friendships and celebrating the holidays.

STAFF NOTES



WING VICE COMMANDER

Lt. Col. Richard Larson, CAP

Ideas For Your 2015 Civil Air Patrol Resolutions...

1. Be More Active In Your Squadron
2. Keep Up With Training
3. Bring A Potential Recruit
4. Seek A Promotion Or Skill Level Advancement
5. Bring More Value To The Team
6. Fly Fly Fly

...as evidenced by our numerous taskings in 2014, SD Civil Air Patrol is a valued part of both the AF team and local emergency responders. Whether we are searching for a missing aircraft, tracking a bobcat, presenting the colors, serving our communities or on a training mission, you are our most important asset! Be ready for the call. Thanks for a record setting 2014. Col Seten and I expect great things in 2015! HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Attached as the last page is SD OEM's list of training courses for 1st Quarter 2015.



WING RECRUITING/RETENTION OFFICER

Col. Mike Mouw, CAP

I am Col. Mike Mouw. I just transferred back to SDWG from IAWG and have been assigned as the SDWG Wing Recruiting/Retention Officer. I wanted to let you all know who I am, what my background is, and share some insight into my role.

Here is a little about me. I have been in CAP since March of 1991. I joined while stationed at Sheppard AFB in Texas. I have been a member of many wings over the years, but this area is my home and it is great to be back. I have served as a Squadron, Group, and Wing commander.

I am very passionate about CAP and what this organization offers the membership and the communities we serve. We are unlike any other volunteer organization! There is a high level of expectation from our leadership and the organizations we support in our three missions. Because we have such expectations and need to be mission ready, thus we require a strong workforce in order to perform. That's where I come in. I am responsible for attracting and retaining the most valuable resource CAP has, our people! We typically are the first person new members interact with and sometimes, the last. Our jobs are never done and we span the responsibility from the individual level to the large efforts in recruiting. With all that said, we have the opportunity to meet new people and share the CAP story with them, what else can you ask for?! My role is to assist you in recruiting and retention.

I have worked all these types of activities and have many ideas that are yours to use. However, geographical areas can be different and may require a local awareness of what works and what may not. Together we work to ensure that every opportunity we get, we make the most of. Any questions, ideas, or concerns, please let me know. You can reach me on my cell at 712-324-1624.



WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP

- I am pleased to announce that SM Travis Woodard of the Rushmore Composite Squadron has joined the Wing Public Affairs staff as an Assistant Public Affairs Officer. His primary area of responsibility will be to manage the Wing's public affairs social media program.

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-058, BROOKINGS)

(Items by Maj. Gengler, Capt. Hofer)



- **CYBERPATRIOT-VII**: The Big Sioux cyber-security team placed 6th overall in the All Services Division and 2nd in CAP teams in the 3rd Round of Cyber Patriot-VII competition held from 5-7 December. This means our crew of ace cyber-sleuths will move on to the 4th Round (Semi-Finals) to be held 16-18 January. If they continue to do as well as they have done so far they will qualify for the all-expenses-paid trip to Maryland where they will compete in the Nationals for the final round.
- **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**: Five members of the squadron took part in laying decorative holiday wreaths on veterans' graves at the Greenwood Cemetery in Brookings. The local Veterans of Foreign Wars and the local American Legion were also in attendance and participated in the ceremony and the laying of wreaths. The squadron's color guard, albeit a diminished one, presented and retired the colors adding an additional note of solemnity to the occasion.



CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)

(Items and photos by Lts. K. and V. Bierwirth)

- This was the first year that we had an entry in Custer's Parade of Lights. We may have be small but it was good publicity for the squadron, for SDWG and for CAP.
- The squadron hosted a Christmas pot luck party and friends and family joined us for some awesome food and entertainment.



- **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**: We were all ready for the big day but much to our dismay our wreaths got lost in transit. Fortunately, we were able to locate seven wreaths for the ceremony and it went beautifully. Better late than never, we finally received our shipment of wreaths on 13 December. The squadron, the Hot Springs American Legion and people from the Custer and Hot Springs communities helped to place the wreaths at the Hot Springs National Cemetery. In the photo, taken by Lt. V. Bierwirth, C/Amn Antony Dillon, C/MSgt Thomas Dillon, and C/CMSgt Jason Parry salute honor our fallen veterans.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-063, SPEARFISH)

(Item by Lt. Col. Hopewell, Maj D. Small Jr., photos by Capt. Collister)

- **PUBLIC OUTREACH**: Capt. Sylvia Small gave a brief presentation about Civil Air Patrol at the Seventh Day Adventist church in Spearfish on 6 December.
- **GROUND TEAM TRAINING**: On Monday, 22 December, six cadets and two senior members took advantage of the Holiday break to hone their ground team skills. Cadets Austin and Keyvin Rauscher, Justin and Ryan Harris, Jared Doyle and William Small filled in needed items for their ground team SQTR qualifications. Cadets practiced extinguishing small fires to counting paces and map topography reading. Instruction was by Maj. David Small Jr.
- **HOLIDAZZLE**: Saturday, 6 December, was the night of the annual winter Spearfish parade down Main Street. The Spearfish Holidazzle Light Parade, with its theme of the seasonal holidays, followed the two mile route, was led by the Color Guard and cadets of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron. Carrying and

guarding the colors in their blues were Cadet Squadron Commander C/SMSgt Justin Harris, C/MSgt Ryan Harris, C/Lt Jared Doyle, and C/TSgt Keyvin Rauscher. C/CMSgt Connor Caneva, C/AB Katie Spruill, C/TSgt Austin Rauscher directly followed the Color Guard wearing BDU's and safety vests. They handed out candy to the crowd lining the sidewalks and distributed recruiting pamphlets to spectators that appeared to be of eligible age for joining CAP. Squadron Commander Capt. Bill Collister and Lt. Col. James Hopewell provided ballast for the CAP van that closely followed the cadet contingent. The impressive, disciplined, and precise display by the squadron at the head of the procession elicited attention and applause from parade-goers along the route.



PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-38, PIERRE)

(Item by Lt. Col. Gatje)



- **PIERRE SQUADRON CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS AT THE CAPITOL:** The annual Capitol Christmas Tree display ended at the capitol the weekend after Christmas. This was the 34th anniversary for “Christmas at the Capitol” and included almost 100 decorated trees throughout the building. As the number of trees allowed is limited a group has to apply for and be selected for one of the coveted spots. To be included in the capitol display is an honor. Pierre Squadron applied and was selected to display a tree. The squadron tree was located on the second floor. Thousands of people tour the Capitol Christmas Trees each year. Many come just to view the trees. CAP received excellent visibility.

Ms. Barb Bjorneberg, who co-chairs the display, says there were about 30,000 signatures in this year's guest book. Many visitors do not bother to sign the guest book so there were likely many more visitors. She says it's estimated that at least 47 states were represented in the guest book. She says out-of-state visitors are always wowed with the display.

RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-031, RAPID CITY)

(Item by Capt. Josh Hall)



- **IT'S NOT TOO COLD TO FLY**: Rushmore cadets took to the sky over Christmas break. Near-zero temperature, clear skies, and low winds were a perfect formula for a great day to fly. C/Amn Samuel Lawrence, C/A1C Tyler Eberle, C/Amn Isaak Weller, and C/TSgt Joe Jagodzinski each had the opportunity to sit at the aircraft's controls. The flights departed Rapid City and headed west over the city and then over the northern Black Hills. Cadet Lawrence was first in the front seat as it was his first o-flight. The cadets had opportunity to see the entire Black Hills. The first stop was Spearfish then, flying IFR (I Follow Roads), to Lead following Hwy 385 south to Pactola Reservoir and Sheridan Lake. This was followed by a quick jaunt to the Mount Rushmore area, around Harney Peak, Crazy Horse, again stopping at Custer County Airport. Sadly, a local favorite burger place did not deliver to the airport and was closed for the holiday season. From Custer we flew south to Hot Springs for a view of the southern hills before returning to Rapid City. Capt. Hall stated, "I'm still just as excited to go on an orientation flight today as I was many years ago as a 12 year old cadet sitting on two phone books to look over the dashboard." In the photo, front left is C/Amn Samuel Lawrence, front right is Capt. Josh Hall.

★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Although not a promotion *per se*, congratulations to C/CMSgt Jason Parry of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron who earned his Neil Armstrong Award!



Congratulations to Thomas Dillon of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Master Sergeant and receipt of the Lindbergh Award!



Congratulations to Ivan Kreger of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Technical Sergeant and receipt of the Captain Eddie Rickenbacker Award!



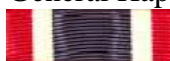
Congratulations to Nathaniel Fleet of the Big Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



Cadet Airman Promotions



Congratulations to Tyler Eberle of Rushmore Composite Squadron and to Andrew Toft of Big Sioux Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the General Hap Arnold Award!



★ ★ KUDOS ★ ★



Congratulations to C/2nd Lt Bradley Blansett of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron who completed his Ground Team Leader requirements on this mission. In addition, Lt. David Small III also of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron renewed his Emergency Services qualification as GTL. In addition he also recertified as UDF.



Wing Director of Emergency Services Lt. Col. Daryl Miles sends a big Kudo to Wing Director of Communications Capt. Jerry Gabert for getting the Big Sioux Composite Squadron base radios up and running again. He spent several hours making sure we are mission ready.



Congratulations to Capt. Patrick Nowlin, the wing's newest Mission Pilot! During his second flight of the REDCAP mission on 30 November, Capt. Nowlin, Vice Squadron Commander and the Assistant Communications Officer for the Rushmore Composite Squadron passed his Form 91 Check Ride.



Congratulations to Lt. Justin Bierwirth and to Lt. Kris Bierwirth, both of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron who earned the Yeager Award!



Former commander of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, Lt. Col. Robert "Keith" Collins, 91, passed away on 8 December in Billings. He had moved to Billings from Spearfish, in July 2012 with his wife to be near family. He graduated from Belle Fourche High School in 1941, served in U.S. Army Engineers in North Africa and India in World War II, and graduated from South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in 1949.

Keith enjoyed a long career as a mining engineer in Wyoming, the Dakotas and also worked in many countries (Chile, Thailand, Malaysia, India). In 1981, he became director of mineral resource procurement for the Eastern Hemisphere. Stationed in London he supervised mining operations in Europe, North Africa and Turkey.

He moved to Houston in 1985, retired in 1986, and moved to Spearfish Canyon in the Black Hills.

He married Lorraine Hill in 1958 and the couple had three children. He also had four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



Cremation has taken place. The family plans a service in The Black Hills National Cemetery in Sturgis, SD, at a later date. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.cfgbillings.com through "Our Families."

According to Maj. Daryl Hayes of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, "Just off hand, I do know Keith was one of the charter members of the squadron in August of 1987. I joined one month later. I know he was a

Mission Coordinator, Mission Pilot, Squadron Commander, Wing Safety Officer, Operations Director, Ground Team Ops, Ground Team Leader, Air Ops, Supply Officer and many other offices. He did indeed get Senior Member of the Year but I don't know which year. While he was Squadron Commander the squadron got Squadron of the Year at least twice times if not three times. He almost single handedly arranged to get the current squadron building moved in from Ellsworth and made the arrangements to get the septic system, electrical service and water for the building. ... He coordinated at least two wing conferences that were held in Spearfish. He put out targets and made up scenarios for practice missions and coordinated with Air Force Liaison during the missions. He flew on many REDCAPS but I can't tell the names of them without looking at the records. I know there was one that went down just south of McIntosh, one just north of Isabel, one that went down north of Deadwood and two southeast of Rapid City. I'm sure there were more but without records I can't say how many or which ones."

HAPPY 2015!
FROM THE EDITOR OF THE SKYCHASER



2015

<u>Homeland Security/Emergency Management</u>			
Date	Course Title	Location	Seats Available
January 10-11, 2015	ICS 300 <u>Registration</u>	Rapid City	30
January 15-16, 2015	G 265 Instructional Delivery Skills <u>Registration</u>	Pierre	30
January 17-18, 2015	ICS 400 <u>Registration</u>	Rapid City	30
January 21-22, 2015	EM101 <u>Registration</u>	Pierre	30
January 24-25, 2015	ICS 300 <u>Registration</u>	Tyndall	30
February 20-21, 2015	ICS 300 <u>Registration</u>	Watertown	30
February 28-March 1, 2015	ICS 400 <u>Registration</u>	Armour	30
March 13-14, 2015	ICS 400 <u>Registration</u>	Watertown	30
March 16-17, 2015	Recovery from Disaster the Local Government Role <u>Registration</u>	Deadwood	25

https://dps.sd.gov/emergency_services/emergency_management/training_schedule.aspx



South Dakota

WING ROUNDUP



CIVIL AIR PATROL • WINTER 2014 • UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY



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COVER PHOTO:

During the Split SAREX in January 2014, members of Ground Team-1 in the East River area search for an aircraft emergency beacon using hand-held radio-directing-finding equipment.

2013 JDESE Encampment and SAREX

By Maj. Todd Epp and Maj. Bruce Kipp

Bivouacking during one of the largest search and rescue exercises (SAREX) in recent South Dakota Wing history, a successful pass-in-review ceremony and a formal military dining experience at an Air Force base welcomed cadet graduates of the Joint Dakota Emergency Services Encampment held at Camp Rapid, S.D. in July 2013.

The 2013 encampment, which switches between locations in the Dakotas each year, featured emergency services training, primarily for ground search and rescue team skills. Initially, the cadets spent over a week learning how to use an orienteering compass, how to read a map, how to operate hand-held radio-direction finding equipment and wilderness safety.

Then, some of the cadets and senior members

moved to the Custer County Airport where they set up camp by pitching medium sized, general-purpose tents provided by the South Dakota Army National Guard. Heavy rain and thunderstorms did not dampen the enthusiasm of the participants as they went out on ground search and rescue sorties.

The first of the sorties consisted of looking for a missing fisherman and his brother in the Black Hills in and near Custer State Park. Another search involved looking for an actual S.D. Army Guard Blackhawk helicopter that had “crashed” in the Black Hills.

Senior members staffed the incident command post at the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron headquarters at the Custer County Airport. CAP aircraft flew as part of the search missions and



7 Wings and 70 personnel participated in the 2013 JDESE.



JDESE SAREX participants erect a troop billet tent.



JDESE “Crashed” SDANG Blackhawk Helicopter.

Continued on page 7 . . .



Commander's Column

*By Col. John Seten
South Dakota Wing Commander*



As I write this I am finding it hard to believe we are transitioning into a new year. I'm not sure where the past year went but it was a busy one for the wing. One of the highlights was the wing hosted a breakout session at the South Dakota Emergency Management Association's annual conference. This is our target audience for Search and Rescue missions. We answered a lot of questions and we are already working on a potential new mission for Hanson County.

Our wing completed the Compliance Inspection back in May conducted by US Air Force personnel and CAP personnel from around the country. We received a successful rating and I personally want to thank all of my wing staffers as well as all wing members for assisting with the inspection.

Last July we hosted the Joint Dakotas Emergency Services Encampment at Camp Rapid in Rapid City, SD. The encampment wrapped up with a SAREX with the mission base at the Custer County Airport. The SAREX

had the largest attendance that anyone could remember in South Dakota. Many trainees were able to gain experience in areas that were new to them which will greatly enhance our mission capabilities.

In August we had nine members attend events during the CAP National Conference in Denver, CO. Some attended the pre-conference learning labs while others attended the conference and took part in the numerous learning labs and the banquet. South Dakota Wing received the North Central Region Emergency Services Award. Also the wing is proud to have Cadet Col. William Small represent the North Central Region as the advisor to the National Cadet Advisory Council. This is a great opportunity for Cadet Col. Small. He will do a great job for the region.

Over the Labor Day weekend we were tasked by the Air Force Rescue and Coordination Center to locate an Emergency Locator Transmitter beacon. The Sioux Falls and Brookings Squadrons teamed up and launched two

ground teams and one aircraft. Shortly after the aircraft launched it started tracking the beacon which ended up being an aircraft in a hangar on the Madison Airport. The aircraft led the ground teams to the site and with law enforcement officials were able to get permission for our teams to silence the beacon. Great job and all involved with the search are credited with a "Find" ribbon.

Many other cadet training events as well as professional development events took place throughout the months of 2013 to include Training Leadership of Cadets classes, a Corporate Learning Course, and the IG Senior Course. There were also numerous community service events all around the state that we either took part in or supported.

As we go forward into the winter months we will anxiously await to see what our FY-14 Air Force training budget will be. We will be gearing our training efforts towards preparing for our Evaluated Exercise in April.

Continued on page 23 . . .

AirVenture 2013 Air Show

By Maj. Buck DeWeese with comments from Capt. David Small

Trip Report (31 July – 5 August) to the Experimental Aircraft Association's "AirVenture 2013" air show/exposition held annually in Oshkosh, WI.

Phase 1, the gathering of eagles, began Wednesday, 31 July for the start of a long, arduous journey that crossed three states via CAP van and chartered bus. After picking-up attendees in Sturgis, Piedmont, and Rapid City, the West River group of eight arrived in Tea, SD. Capt. Joseph Oye of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron cordially provided billeting for the night; some slept in his house, some in his camper and some in Col. Seten's camper (which he graciously parked in the driveway and allowed us to use). The next



SDWG contingent to the "AirVenture 2013" airshow in Oshkosh, WI.

morning we met up with nine other CAP members and several non-CAP family members at the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) headquarters hangar at the Tea Airport where Capt.



Static display area overview.


AirVenture *Continued . . .*

Joe Oye (SFCS) introduced the Tea EAA to Maj. DeWeese who had been successful in securing state funding that significantly helped defray the cost of this trip. The Tea EAA also provided \$50 “scholarships” to each cadet.

Phase 2, the departure for Oshkosh. The 17-person contingent (nine seniors and eight cadets) from SDWG loaded onto a 50-passenger touring bus along with 28 EAA members for the 10 hour ride to Oshkosh, WI, the home of the famous annual Oshkosh Air Show “AirVenture” sponsored by the EAA.

Phase 3 began with check in at the University of Wisconsin dormitory for billeting assignments. Busses provided transportation to and from the airshow. For safety and security there was a bed check at 11pm each night. We attended three glorious days of aviation history in the air and on the ground. There were daily airshows and a special night air show on Saturday night. Hundreds of warbirds from all eras including the historic B-29 Superfortress bomber “FiFi”, aerobatic helicopters

and RV7 (homebuilt aircraft kit) demonstration teams kept the crowd entertained each day as did thousands of non-military aircraft from all eras on static display. There even was a semi-tractor powered by three turbojet engines with afterburner. One night the new animated film “Airplanes” was shown at the outdoor theatre. Our cadets got to meet with Cadet Capt. Brandon West of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron who was there participating in the National Cadet Activity “Blue Beret” which supports the AirVenture air show. He gave them a tour of their facility and they chatted with Blue Berets from around the country. There was plenty to eat, drink and explore for three wonderful days. Everyone had a favorite event, but everyone agreed the night air show was one of the highlights. Despite sunburned faces and sore feet a good time was had by all.

Phase 4, the return home, began at 1500 on Sunday, 4 August as we all packed back onto the bus for a 10 hour drive back to Tea arriving about 0100. Those from West River continued on taking turns driving. Those from East River caught a few hours of sleep before reporting to work later that morning. 

JDESE Encampment/SAREX

Continued from page 4 . . .

helped guide ground search teams to their targets. Cadet Maj. Hunter Stonehouse from the 119th ANG Cadet Squadron in Fargo, N.D., even flew a sortie as a mission pilot trainee.

On the second to the last day of encampment, cadets struck camp and returned to Camp Rapid, the S.D. National Guard’s headquarters and encampment site. They quickly changed from BDUs to dress blue uniforms, rehearsed, and then performed a perfect pass-in-review ceremony just prior to a major hailstorm.


That evening, the cadets were treated to the Dakotas Club at nearby Ellsworth Air Force Base for a formal military dinner and awards ceremony held before distinguished guests, family and friends.

Approximately 70 cadets from seven wings and 20 senior members from the North and South Dakota Wings participated in the encampment with approximately 20 additional members participating



SAREX Commanders Col. John Seten and Lt. Col. Randy Borton control the JDESE SAREX.

in the SAREX. Besides the S.D. Army Guard’s participation, the Salvation Army and Red Cross provided several meals at the SAREX and the Custer County Search and Rescue Team provided a liaison in the search for the “missing” men.

The 2014 joint encampment is currently scheduled for the summer at Camp Grafton, N.D., where the emphasis will be on teaching the leadership skills to the cadets. 

The Birth and Growth of the South Dakota Wing of the Civil Air Patrol

(Part 1)

By Col. Lester W. Snyder, Jr.

In order to explain the origin of the Civil Air Patrol and how it developed in South Dakota, we need to think back to 1941 and the months just prior to the United States involvement in World War II. The international situation was getting extremely tense. The German “war machine” seemed unstoppable. Under that perceived threat many Americans were considering what should be done to minimize any danger to the United States. Many in the aviation community were convinced that the nation’s 25,000 civilian aircraft could in some way, be of help to the hopelessly undermanned Army Air Forces. Thus it was that the Civil Air Patrol was born of the desire of patriotic civilians who believed that a civil air organization was needed to support the United States.

One of those patriotic civilians was a man named Gill Robb Wilson, an aviation writer for the New York Herald Tribune, who vividly remembered an experience he had in Bavaria in 1936. He had been researching a story on German civil aviation, and was attending an official party. In a conversation with a Nazi officer, the officer made the remark, “Your East Coast is the best submarine hunting ground in the world”. Supposedly he was only reminiscing about World War I, but Wilson realized that what the Nazi had said was still true, and they both knew it.



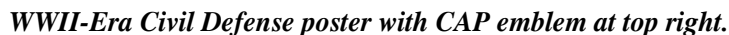
Planes such as this provided valuable civilian wartime service to the nation.

THE BEGINNING

Coincidentally Gill Robb Wilson also had been designated the State Director of Aviation in New Jersey. In that capacity he was able to convince the Governor to authorize the organization of the New Jersey Air Defense Services. Mr. Wilson was not completely satisfied with that, however. He felt strongly that a state organization really was not adequate, so he enlisted the help of two newspaper publishers (Guy P. Gannet and Thomas H. Beck) in order to acquire more influence. Through them he was able to gain the confidence of Gen. Henry “Hap” Arnold, Chief of the Army Air Forces, and a man named Fiorello LaGuardia. The latter was the Head of the recently formed Office of Civil Defense.

Of course, leaders were needed for the new organization. For that reason, the first order of business was to assign Wing (State) Commanders. That act was accomplished in all 48 states on December 1, 1941, with the issue of the Order. South Dakota was no exception, and the first commander of Wing 77 was a newspaperman by the name of Thomas B. Roberts, Jr., who lived in Pierre, S.D. (On May 30, 1955, the Wing 77 designation was changed to Wing 40000, and in 1999 it again was changed, to Wing SDOOO). Subsequently eight Area Group Commanders also were assigned. They were Clyde Ice, Spearfish; Floyd Barlow, Rapid City; Franklin Hyde, Pierre; Ken Neville, Huron; Dwight Campbell, Aberdeen; Ralph Hubbard, Watertown; Cecil Shuoe, Brookings; and Knapp Brown, Sioux Falls. The Area Group Commanders immediately began the task of trying to sign up new members. Verne Kraemer, Nemo, S.D., was one of the first, joining on December 3, 1941. Fortuitously, this activity was occurring just prior to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, on December 7, 1941, which precipitated the United States entry into WWII.

new organization. “The Civil Air Patrol is a branch of the Office of Civil Defense, organized on a nationwide basis for cooperation with the Army, Navy, and Civil Aeronautics Authority in mobilizing small planes for war work, and in South Dakota to handle other Civilian Defense activity.” The earliest physical evidence of CAP in South Dakota that has been found, is a letter dated January 12, 1942. That letter has a Spearfish letterhead and was signed by Clyde W. Ice, one of the Group Commanders of the Civil Air Patrol in



South Dakota. Clyde Ice was a well-known aviation pioneer in the area.

THE COASTAL PATROL

Gill Robb Wilson's fears had become reality, for at the beginning of 1942 the U.S. Navy was stretched extremely thin. Soon German submarines were sinking 50 large ships per month along our East Coast alone. Of course, to avoid panic that fact was not publicized. Determined to make a difference, members of the CAP activated Coastal Patrol Base #1 at Atlantic City, N.J., on February 28, 1942. The operation was strictly volunteer; it was completely funded from the members' own resources with no government assistance. The value of the operation was immediately evident, and consequently, the CAP was allowed to establish a Coastal Patrol, which they did officially on March 5, 1942. The operation grew from Base #1 to 21 bases along the East and Gulf Coasts. The Coastal Patrol was a very successful activity. It operated for 18 months, during which time its members flew cover for almost 6,000 convoys for the U.S. Navy, aided 91 ships in distress and 865 shipwreck survivors. The members also located 17 floating mines, sighted and reported 173 submarines, hit 10 with bombs, and are even credited with sinking at least one.

You may wonder what South Dakota had to do with the Coastal Patrol, if anything? Well, some members from South Dakota went to the East Coast to take part in the operation. As of 2010, one of those members, Verne Kraemer, is living in Deadwood, here in South Dakota. There were many members who took part in other CAP activities, or took an active part in other on-going wartime projects. One CAP project in the Black Hills area was rather unique. Members organized coyote hunts. They sold the pelts, and the money was used to help finance the Coastal Patrol, because its members were experiencing many delays in receiving government assistance.

THE BORDER PATROL

It should be mentioned that there was a CAP Border Patrol as well as a Coastal Patrol,

but apparently there was not any South Dakota involvement in that activity. The Border Patrol was operated by CAP, from July 1942 to April 1944. Members operating in that activity were able to detect a few saboteurs, and also managed to discover a spy radio station.

OTHER WWII-ERA CAP MISSIONS

Other activities which were performed by the CAP for the military included Target Towing and Searchlight Tracking, both of which could be hazardous to one's health. Target sleeves were towed by CAP aircraft to provide gunnery practice for the artillery. For the CAP pilots, the tow cables on the sleeves never seemed to be long enough. Also, CAP pilots flew missions to give practice to searchlight crews. The pilots of those planes learned quickly that a searchlight, viewed inadvertently, could blind a pilot for a considerable length of time.

THE COURIER SERVICE IN SOUTH DAKOTA

There was still a different wartime activity for CAP pilots. In those early days of the War, the Army Air Corps was having difficulty performing just its basic functions. It was critically short of both military pilots and aircraft, and found itself desperately in need of a means to rapidly transport critical items between bases. To fill that need, a CAP Courier Service was organized under the Second Air Force. One of the several locations that units operated from was in South Dakota. CAP pilots started flying courier routes out of the Rapid City Army Air Base on November 2, 1942. The routes that were flown were triangular, and the first was to subordinate Bases in Pierre, SD, and Ainsworth, NE. With their low horsepower aircraft, the total route could not easily be completed in one day. A pilot might fly to Pierre, deliver his cargo, then go on to Ainsworth and stay the night. He then would return to Rapid City the following day. Another pilot might start at the same time as the first one, and fly the route in reverse order spending the night in Pierre. One of the pilots met his future wife during a stopover at Pierre. When

they remained overnight at satellite Bases, the pilots stayed at the BOQ's, ate at the mess halls, and were welcomed at Officers Clubs. They had high praise for the way they were treated by military personnel.

Later other routes were added for the Rapid City unit. One was to Alliance, NE, and Scottsbluff, NE. Another was to Cheyenne, WY, and Casper, WY. When the pilots returned to Rapid City, most often they picked up another load, possibly the next day, and continued to the next destination. The cargo that the Courier Service transported was quite varied, and might include: rifles, parachutes, high priority mail, emergency parts, instruments and even Base payrolls. Most likely because of the latter, all the pilots were issued 45 caliber pistols and had to qualify on the firing range. In some cases, a part of the cargo might be picked up at the delivery point by courier pilots from other Wings, in a relay. There evidently were two other satellite Bases in South Dakota. There is evidence that one was located at Watertown and another at Mitchell, but they evidently were serviced by pilots from another unit, probably one at the Sioux City Army Air Field, in Iowa, or possibly one in Omaha.

THE COURIER SERVICE PERSONNEL

Most of those who joined the CAP were pilots who had been greatly disappointed when, six days after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, all small aircraft were grounded. Most of those pilots were too old for military service or were 4-F (not qualified for military service due to medical reasons) in the draft categories. However, they wanted to fly, and as with most civilians at that time, they especially wanted to do something for the war effort. In the South Dakota Courier unit there were only seven regular pilots, who had their personal airplanes. There were four other members in the unit: two "alternate" pilots, a mechanic, and a dispatcher. The regular pilots were John Moodie, Ed Anderson, Carl Baker, Jack Davis, Chuck Keown, Max Kuehn, and Martin Schroeder. The two alternate pilots, who actually flew a great deal, but did not have their own planes, were Cecil Urban and Ross Wiehe. Leo Weber was the mechanic and Roger L'Esperance was the dispatcher. Each individual

received some pay for his services but the regular pilots received better compensation for the use of their planes. To qualify for the Courier Service, the pilots were required to have at least 150 hours of cross-country flying time. None of them were instrument-rated, which makes it seem even more miraculous that they flew almost every day. They would even fly in weather when the Army Air Forces would not launch their B-17s. They would take off with ceilings as low as 150 feet. By 1943 they were on a schedule of seven routes per day, and their completion rate was phenomenal. In most months it was 100 percent, and they kept up that pace for about 14 months.

The Rapid City unit pilots flew out of what was the Rapid City Municipal Airport. At that time the airport was adjacent to the southwest side of the Rapid City Army Air Base, which eventually became Ellsworth Air Force Base. The airport had a paved runway and the Inland Airline's hangar which the CAP was allowed to use. Inland Airline was absorbed later by Western Airlines. The hangar was made of stone, with a concrete floor. It was heated and also was occupied by the Weather Bureau office. The courier routine was to telephone the Air Base Tower for permission to land at the base. Then the pilot would take off from the small municipal runway and fly into the adjacent base, to pick up his cargo for the day. When the cargo had been loaded in his plane, he would take off from the base, on the assigned courier route.

THE COURIER SERVICE AIRCRAFT

The planes the courier pilots flew were small, with about 65 to 75 horsepower engines, and they had only very basic instruments. Only one had a radio transmitter, although some had receivers. Most of the aircraft had a range of about three hours, except for that of the commander. Captain Moodie had installed an extra tank in place of the passenger seat with a wobble pump to aid in the transfer of fuel. Periodically the planes would have to be grounded for service, and when they did, they would get out of sequence. However, about every ten days to two weeks a pilot would catch up with his own airplane. Even with their limited range, the low airspeeds and the constant and repetitive

nature of the routes created another danger. That danger was from lack of sleep and from monotony and boredom. To counter that while flying their routes, some pilots read books, others buzzed farmhouses, dropped notes, shot at coyotes, or did flight maneuvers to entertain kids along the way.


There were instances when the courier pilots encountered winds with not much less velocity than the airspeed of the aircraft. At least once a plane ran out of fuel, but fortunately, the pilot was able to land and get a small quantity of fuel from a farmer. In another case the wind at the landing site was so strong that the pilot had to set his brakes on landing and “rev” up the engine with the tail off the ground, until “wing walkers” could come out and help secure the aircraft. John Moodie flew into Casper in a snowstorm so bad that he could not tell that the ground, to which he was keeping wings parallel, was actually the side of a hill. Fortunately, he soon glanced at the needle-ball instrument and was able to reorient himself in time. Shortly thereafter he was lucky enough to locate a railroad track that led him to the airport. Captain Moodie also was the first person to land an airplane on the airport at Ainsworth, NE. He was able to land his small plane safely even though only a short portion of one, of the eventual three runways, was completed.

COURIER SERVICE MISHAPS

With the many hours and all the dangers to which the courier pilots were subjected, there were only three incidents in which an aircraft was damaged, and none in which the pilot was seriously injured. One happened when Lt. Martin Schroeder landed in a high wind back in Rapid City. When he tried to taxi, the wind tipped the Supercub up on its nose. A second incident happened when the aircraft that Lt. Ed Anderson was flying caught on fire in the air, near Newcastle, WY. He was able to land in a pasture and get out with his cargo, although he did burn the sheepskin collar of his jacket getting the mail bags out. The third incident involved Lt. Cecil Urban who flipped a Luscombe over on a taxiway at Ainsworth. In that instance word had been received that the runway was being cleared

of heavy snow. When Lt. Urban arrived, only a taxiway had been cleared because the plow broke down at the end. The banks on each side of the taxiway were up to four to five feet high. He set the plane down without any problem, but a snow bank collapsed part way down the taxiway and it turned the plane into the snow bank and upside down.

THE END OF MILITARY SERVICE

As the Army Air Corps was able to develop its own resources, the commanders understandably tended to rely on their own. That meant that they requested fewer services from CAP. However, the CAP had furnished a needed service and had earned a good reputation in doing it. In fact, they had achieved so much success that by April 1943 the CAP already had been transferred to the War Department. By the end of the war, members of the CAP had earned 825 Air Medals and 25 other military decorations. Unfortunately, 64 members had given their lives, serving their country in the CAP. Another fact that is not generally known is that during the war the CAP owned or operated 215 airports. It also was able to keep 403 other airfields operating despite the reduced traffic, due to restrictions on flying. When the war ended in May 1945, the military missions of the CAP ended with it. However, within a year, in July 1946, the U.S. Congress passed Public Law 476, which incorporated the Civil Air Patrol as a benevolent, non-profit organization to promote aviation. Then, on September 26, 1947, the Army Air Forces became the U.S. Air Force, a separate service. Eight months following that, Public Law 557 was enacted, making the Civil Air Patrol the official civilian Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force. 



My Experiences at National Blue Beret 2013

*By Cadet Capt. Brandon West
Sioux Falls Composite Squadron*



NBB pocket patch.

It all started in 2011 when a couple of my friends came back from a National Cadet Special Activity called National Blue Beret (NBB). The excitement they came home with and all of the cool stories they had to share ignited my interest in this prestigious event. The NBB provides support for the Experimental Aircraft Association's (EAA) annual fly-in and airshow at Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

The Blue Berets (CAP cadets attending NBB wear a distinctive blue beret) flight line marshal the aircraft arriving and departing Oshkosh, provide flight line security and crowd control for the military aircraft, guard the active ultralight aircraft runway, search for emergency locator transmitters (ELT radio beacons) in aircraft that have had rough landings, log the arrival of all aircraft, and do other odd-jobs for the EAA.

After finding out about it from my two friends, I instantly wanted to go. I was selected to attend National Blue Beret 2013! Not only that, once I was assigned to Bravo Flight, I was chosen to be the Flight Commander.

The first day of NBB we lined up outside the dining facility for in-processing. During in-processing we turned in our cell phones and other electronics, were issued NBB t-shirts, took photos for our IDs, and were assigned to our bunks. Throughout the day my other flight members arrived and we started to get to know each other. I didn't know exactly what to expect of this unfamiliar place, but I learned to call it home, and to call my flight and other berets my family.

The next few days consisted of staff training, emergency services training and training in flight



Oshkosh Blue Beret Honor Cordon-1.



Oshkosh Blue Beret Command Post.

line marshaling to prepare us for the airshow. A few days prior to the beginning of the airshow we went operational and began working the flight line handling the arrival of the 20,000 plus aircraft that would be at the Oshkosh event. It was quite the experience to be up close and personal with the planes and directing them to where they needed to go. Knowing they depended on you to keep them from colliding with other planes and making sure they get where they are supposed to be made us all feel very proud. As a flight commander, my job was to patrol up and down the flight line checking on each of my cadets, but I also got to do my fair share of marshaling.

On July 29, the airshow began. Each day, our flight was assigned three different shifts from the following: flight line south, flight line north, guarding military aircraft, emergency services operations or guarding the ultralight runway. My personal favorite was guarding the military aircraft because I got to see many awesome airplanes, and it was the busiest of all the exhibit areas. During



Cadet Capt. Brandon West at the NBB in Oshkosh, WI.

the activity, our flight earned a “find” ribbon during emergency services operations for locating an ELT that had become active in an aircraft that landed hard.

My favorite event of NBB was not part of the airshow though; it was standing in the cordon for the Honor Flight of Vietnam veterans returning from Washington D.C. This was an emotional experience for me. Vietnam veterans were never really given a pleasant and respectful welcome home after the war, and to be able to give that to them that was such a powerful and humbling experience. Many of them were in tears as they walked past us as we rendered them salutes, and this touched me in a way that I will never forget. I have to say that this one special event was one of the most amazing in my entire Civil Air Patrol career.

A couple days prior to this, Bravo flight earned our blue berets. It took a lot of hard work to do so, but we did it. Then, the night of the Honor Flight, we earned our St. Alban’s pins, which are the most important part of the berets; it takes a lot of dedica-

tion to get to that point. In addition to the coveted blue beret with pin we also earned the privilege of wearing the blue beret patch on the pocket of our BDU uniform. Those who complete the NBB activity are entitled to wear the beret and patch for the rest of their cadet career.

Toward the end of the airshow everyone got to see the amazing night airshows where the aircraft did aerobatics and launched fireworks. The coolest part of the night airshow was when the wall of fire was set off. Also, the last few nights the NBB flights got to have a “flight night out.” On our flight night out we got to explore the airshow on our own for a few hours. Then, to wrap up our night, we went out to a place called Ardy and Ed’s, a drive-in restaurant. This is one of the many NBB traditions. All of the other NBB traditions you must learn about when you get there!

All in all, National Blue Beret was an amazing experience, and one that I will never forget. I highly recommend that you apply to attend. Blue Berets are among the best of the best in CAP and I am proud to call myself one of the family. 🇺🇸



Oshkosh Blue Beret HQ.

Labor Day Sunday 2013 ELT Search

By Maj. Todd Epp

A quiet Labor Day Sunday was interrupted by a search for a private aircraft's electronic emergency beacon in eastern South Dakota.

SDWG aircrews and ground search teams based out of Brookings and Sioux Falls were able to pinpoint the location of the radio beacon to the Madison Airport that evening, where repairs on an aircraft triggered the signal. Fortunately, no one was hurt.

The Air Force Rescue Coordination Center contacted the South Dakota Wing about 6 p.m. on 1 September 2013 and reported that an aircraft passing overhead had detected an Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) broadcasting from somewhere north of Sioux Falls.

The Incident Commander for such events, Wing Vice Commander Lt. Col. Rick Larson, quickly organized and dispatched SDWG aircraft and ground search teams from Brookings and Sioux Falls to hunt for the ELT.

Early information indicated the ELT might have been in the Dell Rapids area. With that initial information, the aircrew flew a Cessna-182 towards, over and around the Dell Rapids area. Based on the aircraft's onboard radio-direction-finding systems the aircrew determined the signal was coming from the north and west of Dell Rapids. Meanwhile the ground search teams searched a small airstrip south and east of Dell Rapids.

About 9 p.m., the aircrew was able to isolate the signal as coming from the Madison Airport. The aircrew contacted the Incident Commander, who in turn contacted the Lake County Sheriff's Office, which quickly mobilized to investigate. Lt. Col. Larson then dispatched the ground teams from Dell Rapids to the Madison Airport.

The SDWG aircraft orbited overhead and vectored the ground search teams to the airport where they began their search. At the airport, with the help of the Lake County Sheriff's Office, the

ground teams located the ELT to a Cessna-172 in a hangar that had just undergone its annual inspection which had inadvertently triggered the beacon. The aircraft's owner was notified and gave permission to silence the beacon. As the SDWG aircraft returned to base the ground teams remained to deactivate the ELT and then waited to make sure that it did not reactivate.

“The aircrew assisted the ground teams to the airport and orbited overhead until the ground team started searching.”


After being debriefed the flight crews and ground search teams were released from duty at approximately 11:50 p.m.

Participants in the mission included:

Aircrew - Capt. Joe Oye, mission pilot; Maj. Todd Epp, mission observer; and Capt. Jerry Foy, mission scanner.

Ground teams: Maj. Justin Johnson, ground team leader; Maj. Nick Gengler, ground team leader; Capt. Karla West, and ground team members Cadets Camille and Brianna Lynn, Christopher Dinnel, Josiah Huntington, Brandon West, Matias Kowang and Devon Brown.

Mission base: Lt. Col. Rick Larson, incident commander; Maj. Bruce Kipp, public information officer; 1st Lt. Vinnie Brown and 1st Lt. Dan Schneider, mission radio operators.

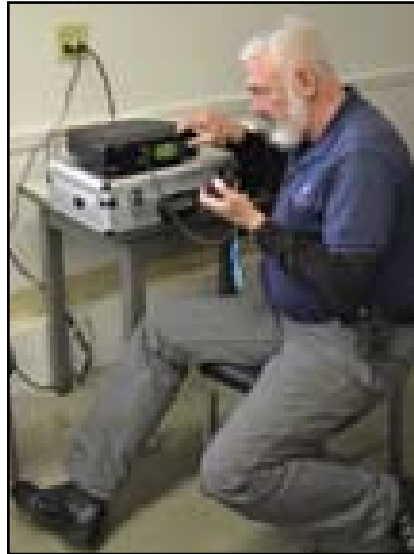
Mission participants will receive a find ribbon for their efforts, according to South Dakota Wing commander Col. John Seten. 

Wing Communications Challenge

By Capt. William Collister

Some of us are used to the convenience of calling or emailing someone as soon as we have a thought, question or directive. What we forget is the infrastructure that supports this convenience isn't infallible! Just as much of our writing skill has weakened, we get frustrated when we don't have a signal or the internet connection is down. When the lack of service is longer term frustration grows exponentially. When we cannot even call the service provider, we actually become angry! We have evolved into a gotta have it now society. How do we deal with this loss and cause of frustration? When we are forced to wait our connections out, we prioritize the contacts we have to make and find work-arounds. The missions we perform for CAP are no different. But, we have old radio technology for use today.

With the radio equipment we have at our disposal we have the means to communicate sufficiently well within and outside the Wing without having to depend on the "pay as you go" infrastructure. We use these communications during our training and our real missions. The term "sufficiently", however, is kind of a flat expression. We could, as we have done in the past, use our radio equipment as expertly as we do our other tasks within CAP.



Capt. Bill Collister establishes HF radio communications.

Our local capabilities supplement communications assets at the Wing, Region and National, but only if we perfect their use through practice. CAP's National Commander has directed that units must regain the expertise of the past by re-instituting regular radio networks. As Wing Director of Communications, I want to start using the local radio nets we have in place now and then grow those local nets into a robust and total intra-communications network in our Wing.

I propose that we begin to hold a coordinated and participative net for a few minutes during each Squadron's meeting. We can establish a radio net with other Squadrons that share the same or overlapping meeting times. Initially, we will use this

communications training net to verify equipment operation, either on our own channels or using the South Dakota State Radio Trunking System.

By the time you read this, this first step should be being exercised. I also propose that we allow, with guidance, our cadets the opportunity to demonstrate the enthusiasm that I have witnessed from some of them at SAREXs. The communications training nets should be run by all hands, Cadets and Seniors alike, so the training experience is shared. Training communications nets can even be practiced in the local squadron area going from room to room or spread out on a field, also using ISRs.

Squadrons can assign each of their members an Air Force Voice Call Sign (AFVCS) "Grasslands" since they all have a list of calls beginning with their respective unit charter number. For example: The Sioux Falls Composite Squadron is SD-050. Their AFVCS would be Grasslands (GL) 50X to 5XX. The first six callsigns are identified for specific positions: Grasslands-500 for Squadron HQ, GL-501 for the Squadron Commander, GL-502 for Squadron Vice Commander, GL-503 for Squadron Chief of Staff, GL-504 for Communications Officer and lastly GL-505 for Squadron Chaplain. GL-506

Continued . . .

Wing Communications

Continued . . .

through GL-599 could be specifically designated for a person (Senior or Cadet). Notification of the assignment of personal callsigns must be sent to the Wing Director of Communications. Training communications nets should utilize AFVCS callsigns instead of the functional designators we use on missions; i.e. Ground Team One or Mission Base. Vehicles that check in to a net could use GL-4XX, with the last two digits being the last two digits of the vehicle's CAPID or the radio operator could use his/her own assigned call sign.

With the pride of each member having a personally assigned radio callsign and participation in training communications nets, we can show the CAP National Commander that South Dakota Wing can not only take ownership in providing some of the best Cyber Warriors, but the best communicators that the nation has. I issue this as a challenge to all South Dakota Wing members to make this happen. 📧

Commander's Comments

Continued from page 5 . . .

This will be held in Sioux Falls with tasking starting on 21 April and the main exercise on 25 April.

In 2014 we will concentrate our efforts on not only recruiting new cadet and senior members but more importantly retaining the wonderful members we currently have. Let's band together, get involved with our organization, involve our newer members, give them something meaningful and purposeful to accomplish. Our members have many, many talents and skills. Some of the skills that come to mind are lawyers, doctors, emergency managers, members of the clergy, IT professionals, professional photographers, airline pilots, firefighters, school teachers etc. etc. etc. Reach out to them; find out what they are capable of and willing to bring to the table. Get them involved! 📧

Maj. Epp Receives Balsem Award

By Maj. Bruce Kipp



Maj. Todd Epp, recipient of a CAP Public Affairs Exceptional Achievement Award.

Maj. Todd Epp, formerly the SD Wing Public Affairs Officer, received a high honor at the CAP National Convention held in Denver 15-17 August 2013.

Maj. Epp received a Certificate of Merit in the prestigious Maj. Howell Balsem CAP Public Affairs Exceptional Achievement Awards. The Wing's winning entry involved tracking the results of media coverage of a split search and rescue mission exercise (SAREX) held in Sioux Falls and Rapid City in 2012.

"It's sometimes said that CAP is the best kept secret in America," Wing Commander Col. John Seten said. "However, with the efforts of our public affairs officers like Maj. Epp, we are getting the word out about the CAP here in South Dakota." 📧

Mickelson Trail Rescue

*By Cadet Staff Sgt. Justin Harris
Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron*

The Mickelson Trail meanders through the Black Hills of South Dakota, along 108 miles of an abandoned railroad line. In June each year a 26.2-mile marathon race is held over part of the trail with the finish line in Deadwood.

Four officers and five cadets from the squadron travelled from Spearfish to Deadwood, SD on Sunday, 2 June 2013 to provide trail support to the runners at the "Mickelson Trail Marathon." They had volunteered to man and operate an aid station along the route of the marathon and to provide water and snacks to the participants.

Towards the end of the marathon the CAP officers set up a practice injury, triage and transport training event for the cadets. But just minutes from starting the exercise a marathon runner who had backtracked 3/4 of a mile on the course to alert our team of a downed runner in distress about 1/2 mile away.

Immediately Maj. Deryl Miles (who is himself a qualified EMT) and the cadets set off with their first aid packs down the trail toward the reported location of the stricken athlete. They found him lying on the ground in serious distress; vomiting, cramping, disoriented and confused, the classic signs of heat stroke. A combination of heat, dehydration and 20 miles into his first marathon had taken a toll on the young man.


Maj. Miles and the cadets moved the individual into the shade and gave immediate first aid then assisted moving him three-quarters of a mile up a steep, muddy, slippery hill to their site where



CAP aids stricken Mickelson Trail marathoner.

he was further treated then transported within minutes by ambulance to the Deadwood hospital. Later it was learned that the 22 year-old man had responded to treatment and was released from the hospital within a couple of days.

What started as a simple community service transformed quickly into a real "Search and Rescue." While the "Search" was relatively brief, the "Rescue" was from a real, life-threatening situation. Their execution of the impromptu mission was a credit to the squadron members' training and skill.

Squadron members who took part in the event were cadets Cadet Capt. Sam Earl, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Steven Burns, Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Connor Caneva, Cadet Airman First Class Keyvin Rauscher, and Cadet Airman First Class Austin Rauscher. The seniors were Maj. Buck DeWeese, Maj. Deryl Miles, Capt. Bill Collister, and 1st Lt. Brandon Caneva. 

SDWG Expands External Outreach

By Maj. Bruce Kipp

The Public Affairs staff of the South Dakota Wing (SDWG) has inaugurated a dynamic program to boost public awareness of Civil Air Patrol, increase SDWG's name recognition within the state and enhance our brand marketing to a broad-based external audience. This is accomplished through three informal publications: the "Skychaser - Executive Summary", the "Skychaser - Community Edition" and the "Skychaser - JROTC Edition" and the South Dakota Wing "Roundup", the Wing's one formal publication.

Beginning in April 2013, the Wing launched the "Skychaser", a monthly electronic newsletter distributed to all Wing members. Each month's issue of the Skychaser is posted on the Wing's web page where it can be viewed by the general public. Excerpts of the Skychaser are posted on the Wing Facebook, a dynamic, interactive social media venue with a broad audience.


The Skychaser, an informal document intended for our internal audience, reports on news and information of interest to our members gleaned from a variety of sources. There are also articles on the Wing's and subordinate units' events, activities and training. Input is solicited from the Public Affairs Officers of the squadrons. Individual members are encouraged to submit their own articles for publication. The Skychaser is colorful. Each issue includes lots of photos as well as maps, charts, graphs and graphics. In addition, the "Kudos" section recognizes promotions and the achievements and attainments of our members.

For our external audience a shorter "Executive Summary" of each issue of the Skychaser is sent electronically to a growing number of recipients. The Executive Summary, which focuses on the Emergency Services aspects of SDWG activity, is distributed to local, county, tribal, state and federal elected and appointed officials, law enforcement agencies, first responders, military officials, non-governmental organizations, service organizations, and organizations and members of the general aviation community. From time to time articles from the Executive Summary are picked up by other organizations in the state and published in their

own journals which greatly expands our outreach. This past fall two new versions of the Skychaser were initiated. The Skychaser - Community Edition is sent to the state's many local and community newspapers. It focuses on our emergency services activities as well as on the training, activity, achievements, successes and community service of our individual members. The Skychaser - JROTC Edition is sent to the high school Junior Reserve Officers Corps programs of the four services in the state. It is focused on the emergency services activities, training, achievements, successes and on the community service of our cadet members.

Also for our external audience, the South Dakota Wing, in collaboration with Denison Brothers Publishing Company, produces and distributes three times a year a formal, hardcopy magazine, the "South Dakota Wing Roundup." A traditional type periodical the Roundup has a more formal tone and reports on a larger scale. The Roundup has a carefully selected audience of key local, county, state and military officials. The Roundup is also a colorful publication with photos, maps, charts graphs and graphics.

The Wing Public Affairs staff does not rely solely on these three publications for its public outreach program. They also maintain a solid working relationship with the state's print and broadcast media. When SDWG has news that is either time-sensitive or of special significance we issue media releases either to a targeted local audience or statewide. In addition, the Public Affairs staff sends news items about SDWG to CAP National headquarters for incorporation into its own hardcopy and electronic house journals that are distributed nationwide.

The SDWG Public Affairs staff is ever on the alert for new, different, unusual opportunities to enhance and expand its public outreach program. Just as President Herbert Hoover allegedly promised in his 1928 presidential campaign to put "a chicken in every pot and a car in every garage," the SDWG Public Affairs staff's plan is to make Civil Air Patrol a name recognized and respected throughout the state. 

SDWG Receives Award at National Conference

By Maj. Bruce Kipp

The South Dakota Civil Air Patrol received a major award at the CAP National Convention held in Denver 15-17 August 2013.

The award was for excellence in disaster relief operations. The South Dakota Wing received the 2013 CAP Disaster Relief Award for the North Central Region (NCR). Wings from North Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri and South Dakota compose the NCR.

The award is given to a wing in each region with the best disaster relief program. The selection criteria includes evaluation results, the quality and quantity of training activities during

the year, performance during actual missions and cooperation between the CAP wing and state and local agencies.

“The South Dakota Wing prides itself on its preparedness and the results it delivers for federal, state, local and tribal governments,” said Col. John Seten, S.D. Wing commander. “To be recognized by our regional and national organization is a major compliment to the hard work and dedication of our South Dakota members.”

Col. Seten also noted that with the hard work of its members he is confident there are more awards on the horizon for the South Dakota Wing. 🇺🇸



National Commander Maj. Gen. Charles Carr presents the NCR Disaster Relief Award to SD Wing Commander Col. John Seten.

SDWG Locates Missing Man

By Maj. Bruce Kipp

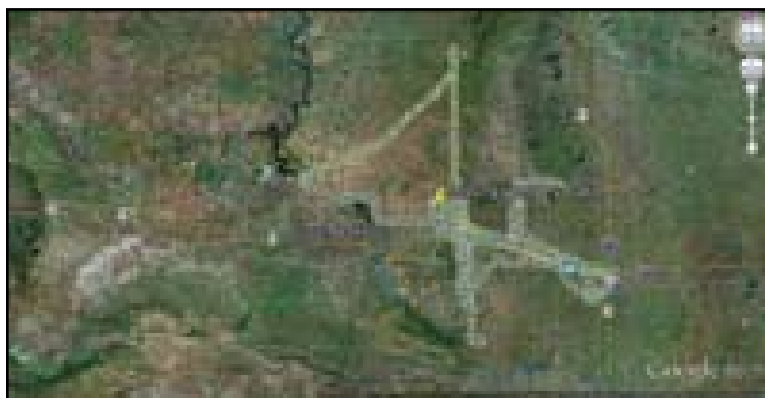
On 20 May, the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center, Tyndall AFB, Florida notified the South Dakota Wing (SDWG) that the Hand County Sheriff's Office, in coordination with the Hand County Office of Emergency Management, requested assistance in the search for a man missing in central South Dakota. Mr. Leroy Nye, an 82 year-old man suffering from dementia, had been reported missing by his family on 19 May.

On 20 May, South Dakota Wing Commander Col. John Seten led a crew in a CAP aircraft from Sioux Falls and carried out an initial search of the area where Mr. Nye was thought to be. Unfortunately, further flight activity that day had to be cancelled due to deteriorating weather conditions.

On 21 May, SDWG aircraft from Pierre and Sioux Falls were on standby; however, bad weather prevented the aerial search operation from resuming. Also that day arrangements were made to bring in a CAP aircraft from Minnesota Wing specially equipped with hyperspectral imaging sensors.

The weather improved early on 22 May and three aircraft conducted numerous flights over the search area. That evening weather conditions deteriorated and the Sioux Falls-based CAP aircraft, piloted by 1st Lt. Neil Schmid, radioed that they were going to make a last pass over the area. At approximately 9:00pm, just as the aircraft turned to return to base, the flight crew reported seeing a vehicle. The crew had spotted a car matching the description of the missing vehicle, northwest of Wessington Springs. The sighting was radioed to the mission base and relayed to the Hand County Sheriff's Office. The CAP aircraft continued to circle overhead until law enforcement and medical personnel arrived at the location.

Mission Pilot, 1st Lt. Neil Schmid commented, "My crew did an outstanding job due to their training, dedication to the mission and attention to detail." The South Dakota crew included 2nd Lt.




Flight paths of the SDWG aircraft involved in the search for Mr. Nye.

Kurt Johnson, Observer, and Capt. Karla West, Mission Scanner.

Hand County Sheriff Doug DeBoer and Mr. Nehemia Volquardsen, Emergency Manager for Hand County, were the overall incident commanders during the search. Volquardsen commented, "The use of CAP aircraft was a significant asset in the search. Without them the search would have gone on longer and much more manpower intensive as the area where the vehicle and missing person were found could not be seen from the road." The South Dakota Wing incident command team included Wing Commander Col. John Seten, Wing Vice-Commander Lt. Col. Rick Larson and Maj. Nick Gengler, Wing Director of Operations.

Col. Seten praised the cooperation throughout North Central Region and thanks all for their response. We appreciate Col. Bob Todd's assistance from the CAP Wings under his leadership. It really helped to have the assets we needed a phone call away! Col. Seten added, "I am intensely proud of all those who responded or supported the effort."

In all, over 20 SDWG personnel assisted with the three day mission at five different locations. Four SDWG aircraft flew 19 sorties, for 41.8 hours in support of the effort, covering all or parts of 12 counties in South Dakota.

The use of CAP aircraft in this search mission was funded by the U.S. Air Force as part of their mission to provide search and rescue operations within the continental United States. 

The Aftermath of Winter Storm Atlas

By Maj. Todd Epp and Maj. Bruce Kipp



You won't find "front end loader operator" on the list of Civil Air Patrol's mission pilot qualifications. But mission comes first.

When an early autumn blizzard of historic proportions hits your area and the state of South Dakota has requested assistance in locating elk hunters who may be missing, you do what Lt. Col. Rodney "Buck" DeWeese from the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron did—get your skid loader and clear the

tarmac in front of the hangar to get to the aircraft. Even if the drifts are four to 5 feet high. Even if it is not your job.

An hour and a half later, thanks to Lt. Col. DeWeese, the aircrew could only now get to the Cessna-182 and begin its mission.

Meanwhile, Maj. Craig Goodrich, a mission pilot and commander of the Rushmore Composite Squadron in Rapid City, flew one of three sorties on the first day. He left his own home, which would be in the

dark for six days from the storm.

While not causing the loss of human life of a Hurricane Sandy, Winter Storm Atlas roared across the northern plains in Oct. 4-6, 2013 hitting western South Dakota and the Black Hills with more than 3 feet of snow and near hurricane strength winds. Livestock were still in their summer pastures and hadn't developed their thick coats of hair yet.

The combination of Atlas, the early season and the federal government shutdown, which closed U.S. Department of Agriculture offices at a critical time, created a "perfect" storm.

An estimated 15,000 to 30,000 livestock and unknown numbers of wildlife in the western third of South Dakota died, often "drifting" into ravines, creeks, rivers, roads and right of ways. While urbanites might wonder what the big deal is, livestock is a \$21 billion industry in S.D. and the state's largest economic engine, according to the South



Dakota governor's office.

The Monday following the weekend blizzard, the state of South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks called on the S.D. Wing to conduct an air search for elk hunters who may have been stranded in the Black Hills region, an area hit by some of the heaviest snowfall with wind-blown drifts up to six feet deep. CAP aircraft from Rapid City, Spearfish and Sioux Falls responded and flew several sorties over the search area. Fortunately, as it turned out all the hunters were accounted for.

Then Tuesday, Oct. 7, the state office of Emergency Management (OEM), and later Pennington and

Meade Counties OEM officials, requested the S.D. Wing to fly state highways and right of ways and Interstate 90 and note the location of dead or stranded livestock. Later in the week, the two large western counties' emergency managers requested that the wing also fly their county roads and rights of ways and waterways, again with the grim task of locating dead livestock.

With so much real estate to cover, the S.D. Wing ended up flying some of the longest sorties in its history, even longer than Missouri River flooding sorties in 2011, where crews often flew over half of the river documenting flooding losses.

Capt. David Small, commander of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron and an airborne photographer, received the call-up notice 20 minutes after he had returned from a 10-day business trip. He grabbed his photo gear and was off to the Spearfish airport to join Lt. Col. DeWeese and other crewmembers.


Meanwhile, Capt. Small left his own family and home to go help others—like a number of other S.D. Wing members.

"We were without power for 40 hours," Capt. Small said. "We were running on generators. We had a little over 3 feet of snow plus drifts. No one could get out of our house until Monday morning."



“Seeing so many dead cattle piled up in a creek that you

As one of the last "cleanup" sorties, Lt. Schmid and his crew saw

The photo suggests that the snows come, the snows go. But South Dakotans—and the S.D. Wing of the Civil Air Patrol—persevere through it all—even over a strong winter storm named Atlas. 





South Dakota *Wing Roundup*



CIVIL AIR PATROL • SUMMER 2014 • UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY



South Dakota Wing CAP-USAF Operational Evaluation



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The Civil Air Patrol is a non-profit volunteer organization federally chartered by Congress under 36 U.S.C. §§201-28, which is dedicated to emergency services, aerospace education and motivation of America's youth to the highest ideals of leadership and public service. Funds received by the advertising sales are used to support this publication and to support various CAP activities throughout the state of South Dakota.

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COVER PHOTO:

View of the flight line at the June state-wide Search and Rescue Exercise.

SDWG Legislative Day at the State Capitol

*By Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP, South Dakota Wing PAO,
with contributions from Col. John Seten, CAP, and Lt. Col. Jim Hopewell, CAP*

On Thursday, 20 February members of the Wing from across the state converged on the state Capitol in Pierre to meet with legislators to thank them for their support. Over 40 members representing all six squadrons made the trip.

Col. Seten commented, "The purpose is to tell state policymakers the story of Civil Air Patrol in South Dakota, of the many volunteer hours spent on air and ground missions for local, county, tribal, state and federal government, law enforcement agencies and first responder organizations. We also want them to know of our cadet program that prepares young people not just for careers in the military, but to be good citizens. He added, "It is important that the public understands in a time



Wing Vice Commander Lt. Col. Rick Larson (left) and Wing Commander Col. John Seten (right) in the senate gallery observing the session. Photo by Lt. Vincent Brown, SDWG



Gov. Dugaard poses with SDWG members on the Grand Staircase of the Capitol Rotunda. Photo by member of Gov. Dugaard's staff

of limited budgets how SDWG helps stretch the resources of the state and saves money by using well-trained, professional volunteers, volunteers who are held to the same level of performance and knowledge as their paid colleagues.


At the opening of their respective sessions, the state Senate and House of Representatives recognized the many contributions of the South Dakota Wing with a prolonged standing ovation. In the Senate, Lieutenant Governor Matt Michels, who was presiding, specifically commended our involvement in the state's flood response efforts in 2011 and our support in state recovery efforts from



SDWG provided a mid-afternoon snack including cleverly decorated cupcakes. Photo by Lt. Vincent Brown, SDWG



SDWG Senior Members in the senate gallery observing the session. Photo by Lt. Vincent Brown, SDWG

small group of our members was an impromptu chat with U.S. Senator John Thune (R-SD) who was in the Capitol building on other business. He stopped his scheduled itinerary and spent several minutes shaking hands and talking with us. Later that afternoon Governor Dennis Daugaard met the nearly 40 members representing all six squadrons and the wing staff on the Grand Staircase of the Capitol Rotunda for a brief visit and group picture. 

2013's Winter Storm Atlas.

Uniformed members of Wing served a light snack in the lobbies off the Senate and House chambers for legislators, lobbyists, staff and others. Thanks to Lieutenant Rachel Kuecker the cupcakes all had CAP and SDWG insignia on them as did the water bottles on the table. Our personnel briefed senators and representatives on the latest enhancements and advancements to the Wing's abilities and capabilities, answered questions and handed out copies of CAP's annual financial report and SDWG's legislative brochure.

A pleasant surprise for a



SDWG cadets in the senate gallery observing the session. Photo by Lt. Vincent Brown, SDWG


Governor Proclaims 20 February “Civil Air Patrol Day” in South Dakota

*By Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP
South Dakota Wing PAO*

“Civil Air Patrol Day” was celebrated in South Dakota on 20 February 2014. Earlier in the month, Governor Dennis Daugaard signed a proclamation establishing the day.

Part of the governor’s proclamation noted “Whereas, we are grateful for the remarkable volunteers who make up the South Dakota Wing of Civil Air Patrol, and provide invaluable service to the great state of South Dakota and its people.”

Col. John Seten, commander of the South Dakota Wing commented, “The idea is to tell the story of Civil Air Patrol in South Dakota, of the many volunteer hours spent in the air and on the ground performing missions for local, county, tribal, state and federal governments.” He added, “We also want them to know about our cadet program that prepares young people not just for careers in the military, but to be good citizens.”

Seten also said it is important the public understands in a time of limited budgets, the CAP helps stretch the resources of the state of South Dakota and saves money by using well-trained, professional volunteers. 



2014 CAP Day Proclamation

“Whereas, we are grateful for the remarkable volunteers who make up the South Dakota Wing of Civil Air Patrol, and provide invaluable service to the great state of South Dakota and its people.”

South Dakota Wing CAP-USAF Operational Evaluation

*By Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP
South Dakota Wing PAO*

The South Dakota Wing took part in a week-long graded mission readiness exercise from 21 to 26 April. The official name for this type of biennial exercise is an “Operations Evaluation”. Each of the 50 Civil Air Patrol Wings across the country undergoes an operational evaluation by the USAF every two years to evaluate the capability and effectiveness of each wing’s personnel, equipment, vehicles and aircraft to successfully carry out a variety of potential real-world emergency situations. Typical scenarios include missing/crashed aircraft, missing persons, floods, and humanitarian assistance.

Beginning early on Monday, 21 April, the South Dakota Wing was placed on alert to commence the week-long emergency services evaluation. During

OPERATIONS EVALUATION SOUTH DAKOTA

Rapid City, SD
NORTH CENTRAL LIAISON REGION



the week the USAF Evaluation Team issued no-prior-notice emergency services mission tasks. The operational evaluation culminated on Saturday, 26 April, with a major “all hands” effort at the Sioux Falls Regional Airport/Joe Foss Field.

Specially equipped Civil Air Patrol aircraft, vehicles and approximately 80 incident command staff, mission support personnel and aircrew members had gathered from across the state. The Mission Base at the airport planned and conducted a variety of missions in response to scenarios



The incident command staff and evaluators brief participants on what to expect.

of potential real-world emergency situations provided by the USAF Evaluation Team. The Evaluation Team observed the activity and evaluated the various staff functions involved in the planning and execution of the assigned missions.

Several of the cadets present worked as mission support assistants in the Mission Base's operations areas, others operated radios on the various command and control nets, and a number of them formed ground search teams that used radio-direction-finding equipment to hunt for practice aircraft emergency beacons that had been placed around the countryside.

Maj. Bruce Kipp, Wing Public Affairs Officer commented, "We train continuously in order to prepare for these real-world missions that affect peoples' lives and impact the health and welfare of our communities. We are ready to respond in the event of an actual incident."

The South Dakota Wing received the rarely awarded rating of "Highly Successful" from the Air Force for its performance during its Operations Evaluation. Several staff sections received the coveted rating of "Excellent". In addition, there was not a single "Finding", an area which requires corrective action. Wing Commander, Col. John Seten, and Wing Vice Commander Lt. Col. Rick Larson,



The incident command staff discusses one of the search and rescue scenario exercises.

who was also the Incident Commander, praised the professionalism of the members, their ability to work together as a team, and their determination to see a mission through to its successful conclusion. Col. Seten added, "The rating of highly successful is a true testament to the hard work of our top notch, dedicated professional volunteers."

The Wing expresses its gratitude to Landmark Aviation for the use of its facilities and also thanks the Sioux Empire Chapter of the American Red Cross for providing meals for the 80 plus people who took part in the activity. In addition, the Wing thanks the South Dakota Air National Guard's 114th Fighter Wing for providing their Mobile Emergency Operations Center.



The flight line; five of the six wing aircraft were present for the operational evaluation.



Commander's Column

*By Col. John Seten
South Dakota Wing Commander*



The South Dakota Wing has been extremely busy over the past few months. The new fiscal year found us covering thousands of miles of state highways and waterways in Western South Dakota following the devastating Winter Storm Atlas. The storm hit during the hunting season in the Black Hills of Western SD and we were first tasked by the SD Department of Game, Fish and Parks to fly over the Black Hills and look for stranded hunters. Fortunately, we did not locate any hunters seeking help. We then transitioned into our next request which was to assist Pennington and Meade counties in assessing livestock losses from the storm. Shortly thereafter the State of SD Office of Emergency Management called upon us to fly every mile of state highway from just west of Pierre to the Wyoming border and from the North Dakota border to the Nebraska border looking for dead livestock in the highway rights of way. We surveyed nearly the entire western half of the state! CAP photographs of the devastation were used at the county and state level and made their way to Washington D.C. where they were used in numerous briefings. Eventually the portions of the state that were affected received a federal disaster declaration which led to millions of dollars getting sent to SD for relief.

Since our last issue we have also received "Find" ribbons for successfully locating two aircraft distress beacons. We have also been supporting the SD Air National Guard with their air defense mission and are in the planning stages for conducting low-level route surveys for them.

I am extremely proud of our members as

we just completed a USAF evaluated exercise which we received the grade of "highly successful". Our hard working members handled everything they were tasked with and did it with a high degree of effectiveness and professionalism. We always stand prepared and this rating was no surprise to me.

Our wing conference was held in Sioux Falls, SD in April and we were honored to have two members of our newly formed state legislative squadron present. We look forward to growing our legislative squadron on the state level and we are very proud to announce that we are one of three states in the nation that have all of our U.S. Congressional delegation as members of the CAP Congressional Squadron. During the conference many well-deserved awards were presented to our members and several breakout sessions were held to assist our members going forward.

Our cadet programs are strong in SD and many cadets are heavily involved in planning for our upcoming Joint Dakotas Encampment which will be held at Camp Grafton, ND. Cadet Col. William Small is the encampment cadet commander and has been busy putting together his staff. He is doing all of this from China where he has been since the first part of March where he is learning Mandarin Chinese. Many cadets from the SD Wing are on his staff.

The SD Wing is also proud to announce that Cadet Maj. Elizabeth Foy has been accepted into two US service academies, West Point Military Academy and the US Air Force Academy. Wow,

Continued on page 13...

The Civil Air Patrol Alerting System

By Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP, South Dakota Wing PAO

In the United States, from 2002-2011, the Department of Homeland Security's Advisory System was a color-coded scale intended to reflect the potential degree of threat of a terrorist attack. This scale, consisting of five color-coded threat levels, was phased out by Homeland Security in April 2011.

As a federally chartered organization the Civil Air Patrol adopted the DHS chart and expanded it to encompass disaster operations. Despite it being phased out by the Department of Homeland Security, CAP continues to use this system to ensure that its personnel, aircraft, vehicles and equipment are ready if needed.

The current CAP Alerting System scale consists of five color-coded levels that spell out actions to be taken.

● **RED (SEVERE) - SEVERE RISK OF A TERRORIST ATTACK OR DISASTER OPERATIONS**

Action: Place CAP resources on Red Alert status. CAP resources will be placed in secure locations under close control. Selected staff personnel, rapid response teams, and selected mission aircrews and ground teams will be placed on Red Alert status and should prepare for expected deployment. People will not report for duty unless directed by the National Commander, Region Commander, Wing Commander, or the National Operations center (NOC). If directed to report for duty, mission bases may be occupied with staff and Incident Command system (ICS) liaison CAP personnel. Communications nets, particularly HF-SSB nets, between Wing HQs, Region HQs and National HQ will be conducted at least once every six (6) hours during Red Level Operations. Selected aircrews and ground teams will be directed to report to designated locations to await orders to deploy. Report status as directed.

● **ORANGE (HIGH) - HIGH RISK OF A TERRORIST ATTACK OR DISASTER OPERATIONS**

Action: CAP resources will be placed on Orange Alert status. Selected staff personnel, rapid response teams, and selected mission aircrews and ground teams will be placed on Telephone Alert and should prepare for possible deployment. CAP resources including emergency operations centers, aircraft and ground vehicles will be inspected to determine operational status. Communications nets, particularly HF-SSB nets, between Wing HQs, Region HQs and National HQ will be conducted at least once daily during Orange Level Operations. Security of resources shall be checked. Report status as directed.


● **YELLOW (ELEVATED) - SIGNIFICANT RISK OF A TERRORIST ATTACK OR DISASTER OPERATIONS**

Action: Coordinate emergency plans with nearby local authorities. Put contingency plans into action if necessary. CAP emergency services personnel and resources including CAP emergency operations centers, aircraft and ground vehicles will be checked to determine operational status. Communications nets, particularly HF-SSB nets, between Wing HQs, Region HQs and National HQ will be conducted at least weekly during Yellow Level Operations. Report status as directed.

● **BLUE (GUARDED) - GENERAL RISK OF A TERRORIST ATTACK OR DISASTER OPERATIONS**

Action: Check to ensure communications links with emergency response teams work. Increase training and preparation for the staff, air and ground teams. Review and update emergency procedures. Coordinate, maintain and update current Memorandums of Understanding with partner agencies. Provide CAP personnel with whatever information is necessary.

● **GREEN (LOW) - LOW RISK OF A TERRORIST ATTACK OR DISASTER OPERATIONS**

Action: Refine plans for emergencies. Train staff on emergency plans and capabilities. Maintain resource capability. Meet with external organizations to present CAP support capabilities and to develop new Memorandums of Understanding with them. 



Pre-2011 Department of Homeland Security Advisory System chart on which the CAP Alerting System is based. Photo Credit: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homeland_Security_Advisory_System, accessed 23 February 2014

CyberPatriot-VI



*By Cadet 2nd Lt. Tyler Gross, CAP
Big Sioux Composite Squadron (Brookings)*

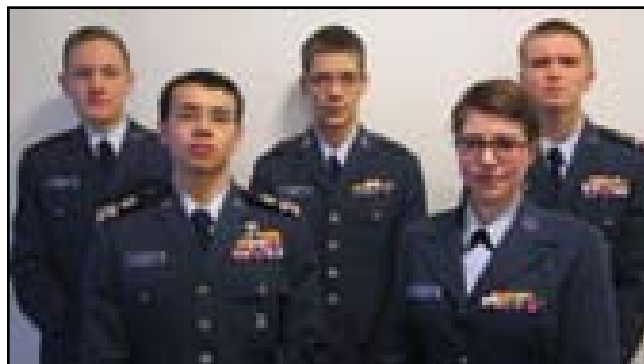
For the third year in a row, the CyberPatriot team from the Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings, SD returned to the Washington, D.C. area 26 - 30 March 2014, to compete in the national championship round of CyberPatriot-VI, the Air Force Association's national high school cyber-defense competition.

CyberPatriot is a unique educational competition that challenges students to resolve real-life cybersecurity situations faced by industry professionals. Created in 2009 by the Air Force Association, the CyberPatriot competition provides students with hands-on learning about securing computer networks while educating, and motivating them toward careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, disciplines critical to the nation's future.

The Big Sioux Composite Squadron's CyberPatriot team consisted of Cadet Capt. Joshua Klosterman, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Chris Dinnel, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Laura Rudnik, and Cadet Senior Airman Zebadiah Nelson. They were coached by Cadet Lt. Tyler Gross and mentored by Lt. Michael Klosterman and Capt. Shannon Hofer.

The CyberPatriot competition has historically consisted of two high school divisions, with public, private, and home schools competing in the Open Division and Junior ROTC units, Naval Sea Cadet Corps, and Civil Air Patrol squadrons competing in the All Service Division. Between the two divisions a record 1,537 teams from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Canada, as well as U.S. Department of Defense Dependent Schools in Japan, South Korea and Germany registered to compete in the competition that began on 15 November 2013.

During two online qualification rounds the Big Sioux team faced realistic computer network threats at their home location seeking out weaknesses in simulated online networks and working to defend those networks from threat scenarios. A



Left to right: Cadet Airman 1st Class Zebadiah Nelson, Cadet Capt. Joshua Klosterman (Team Captain), Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Chris Dinnel, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Laura Rudnik, Cadet 2nd Lt. Tyler D. Gross (Coach)

Cisco networking challenge was also a part of the competition. The team was scored according to how quickly and effectively they established and maintained the secure networks. The Big Sioux team was one of only 44 teams to advance to the semifinals held in January 2014. In the semifinals they faced similar but more complex and sophisticated computer network threats. After an exceptional performance in the semifinals, the Big Sioux Composite Squadron team was named one of 14 All Service Division national finalists and received an all-expenses-paid trip to the National Finals competition in Maryland.


At the National Finals, the only in-person round, the Big Sioux team competed to defend virtual networks and mobile devices from a professional aggressor team. The National Finalists also faced-off in three additional competition components: the Digital Cyber Crime Scene Challenge and the Cisco Networking Challenge, both of which return from previous seasons, and the Digital Forensics Challenge. These extra challenges broaden the cybersecurity experience and expose teams to new elements of the many career opportunities available to them.

The Air Force Association (AFA), the sponsoring organization, is a non-profit, independent,

CyberPatriot

Continued . . .

professional military and aerospace education association. Its mission is to promote a dominant United States Air Force and a strong national defense, and to honor Airmen and our Air Force Heritage. AFA has 200 chapters nationally and internationally representing more than 100,000 members. Visit AFA at www.afa.org.


The annual CyberPatriot competition greatly benefits from the support and technical expertise of its presenting sponsor, the Northrop Grumman Foundation. Other sponsors include Cyber Diamond Sponsors, AT&T Federal, Cisco, Microsoft, Raytheon, USA Today, the Department of Homeland Security, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Cyber Gold Sponsors URS, Splunk, Symantec Corporation, Cyber Silver Sponsors Air Force Research Laboratory, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Leidos, MIT's Lincoln Laboratory, and University College of the University of Maryland. For more information about CyberPatriot, go to www.uscyberpatriot.org. 

Commander's Column

Continued from page 9 . . .

what an honor to have had one of our own accepted to not only one but to two service academies. After a great deal of thought, Cadet Maj. Foy has decided to attend the US Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO. We are confident that this amazing young woman has a great future ahead of her. Congratulations from the entire wing!

The South Dakota Wing continues to excel in all that we do. Although we are not a large wing, we are one of the most progressive wings in the nation. We have embraced cutting edge technologies and have invested in technology that allows us to track our aircraft in flight in real time. This makes us a safer and more efficient force and provides accountability to our customers. Our members continue to step up when called upon and we get the job done.

Let's continue to press forward and make this our best year ever! 



Operations Security (OPSEC)


John W. Desmarais, Sr.

Director of Operations

Civil Air Patrol National Headquarters

We know you and your key staff are all aware of the OPSEC issues and restrictions with posting our frequency assignments and other sensitive mission data openly online. Some well-intentioned personnel continue to post inappropriate information publicly though, and we address those on a case by case basis. Unfortunately, there have also been some cases of members being requested by people outside of CAP to blatantly violate our rules and federal policies with the stated intention of posting restricted information like our communications frequency assignments and coverage maps publicly as well. Please remind your personnel that this is not authorized.

- CAPR 100-1, paragraph 1-9 clearly notes our frequencies provided by the Air Force as sensitive, requiring them to be protected from unauthorized release, and designates them as UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY. It goes on to outline procedures for appropriate release.
- CAPR 110-1, paragraph 9, outlines Prohibited CAP Internet Operations. Paragraph 9d prohibits communication that "...violates any local, state, national or international law or regulation." This applies in the case of posting sensitive information like our frequency assignments.

Thanks for your attention to this matter, and reminding your subordinates of CAP policies in this area. 

Reprinted from "Wyoming Wings", August 2013, and "Alaska Wing Tips", Winter 2014.

Agency Partner Spotlight

*By Lt. Col. Rick Larson, CAP
Vice Commander, SDWG
SD Certified Emergency Manager*


South Dakota CAP is a vital part of our state's integrated response to disasters and events. Whether we are assisting local law enforcement, keeping an eye from the sky on large planned events like LIFELIGHT, conducting damage assessment which may result in public assistance, helping out with ground security at air shows, flying needed supplies in support of a flood, SDCAP is the "go to" agency of choice for partner agencies. Let me name a few. County Sheriff's Offices and County Emergency Managers, State Agencies such as Game, Fish and Parks, Emergency Management, Adjutant General, Homeland Security or Federal Agencies such as FEMA, National Weather Service and Department of Defense, or Non-Governmental Organizations like Salvation Army and Red Cross, CAP is on the go!

All of this cooperation requires we have liaison with each of the named entities. It also requires even more emphasis on us. We in CAP need staff members for liaisons that are of the highest caliber, embody a high degree of professionalism and self-confidence, and possess knowledge of how we can assist within the scope of our capabilities. When we fly in support of the Air Force, as Region Liaison Commander Lt. Col. Paul Peterson said, we need to sit at the table as peers. As an Emergency Manager in my paid profession, I can vouch for the fact that these are critical relationships that take years to develop. They can, however devolve in minutes should we not deliver, lack corporate integrity, or over promise. Coordination and honest brokering set the foundation. Even if we've not worked with a partner agency in some time, we need to maintain a healthy relation-

ship through a well-timed phone call, an invitation to participate in a local exercise, or by forming a joint effort in the community. It is also important to know the names of their key personnel and their particular areas of expertise. Equally important is to keep them "in the loop" and attempt to assist them whenever and wherever possible. The Civil Air Patrol is often their "force multiplier", providing critical, cost-effective, augmentation with support personnel and specialized capability, especially communications and transportation.

What can those of us in the Wing that are involved in emergency services do to enhance our agency partnerships? Get to know your county sheriff and those of the counties surrounding yours. Establish strong working relationships with your county's key staff and management people. Engage with local agencies to inform them of the multitude of CAP capabilities, and then be ready to deliver when the call comes for support. The requests may amaze you, so be ready and trained.

Create and innovate training from our key capabilities such as air and ground search and rescue, radio communications, staffing and operating a shelter, etc. If your organization is already undertaking some of these practices, let us know so we can pass along your work as an example and a starting point for others. Let the Wing leadership know how we can support your effort. We strongly support local ties that make South Dakota Civil Air Patrol ready, relevant and respected in the community, state and Nation!

Thanks for all YOU do to make SDCAP reach new heights! 

South Dakota Wing 2014 Conference and Awards Banquet

*By Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP, SDWG PAO
Photos by 2nd Lt. David Stockinger, CAP, SDWG*

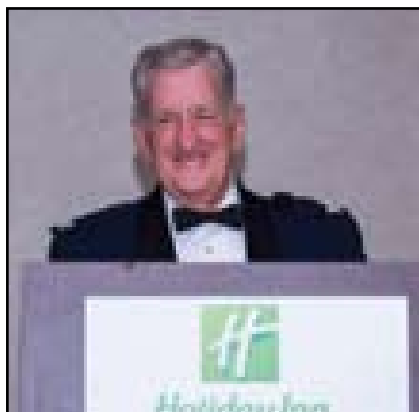
After the end of the Wing's CAP-USAF Operational Evaluation on Saturday, 26 April, participants swiftly changed from duty uniforms into their dress uniforms to attend the 2014 Wing Conference and Awards Banquet. This year it was held at the impressive Holiday Inn-City Centre in downtown Sioux Falls.

At the opening ceremonies cadets of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron provided the Color Guard to post and retire the colors. Maj. Craig Goodrich led the singing of the national anthem. Wing Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Gary Rae conducted the invocation. The Wing expresses its thanks to Lt. Col. Linda Buechler and to Cadet Capt. Silas Busch for preparing the solemn POW/MIA memorial table.

In addition to the SDWG senior members and cadets attending there were several distinguished guests: the members of U.S. Air Force Evaluation Team; Col. Robert Todd, commander of CAP's North Central Region (which includes South Dakota Wing); and USAF Lt. Col. Paul Peterson, commander of the CAP-USAF North Central Liaison Region (who was the keynote speaker). Representing CAP National Headquarters were Assistant Deputy Chief, CAP Legal Officer Corps Lt.



SD Wing Commander Col. John Seten provides the opening remarks.



NCR CC: Col. Robert Todd, commander of the CAP North Central Region, addresses the guests.



Banquet Head Table: Wing leaders, distinguished visitors and honored guest at the head table.



Banquet POW-MIA: A table was set in solemn honor of our nation's POWs and MIAs.

Col. James Garlough, Director of Logistics Mr. Gary Schneider, and NHQ Photographer Ms. Susan Schneider. Also present as honored guests were South Dakota State Representatives Manny Steele and Jim Stalzer, both members of the state's CAP Legislative Squadron.

After the meal and featured speakers it was time for the presentation of awards. First, squadron level awards were presented by the unit commanders. Then it was time for the Wing level awards. These coveted awards were presented by Wing Commander Col. Seten. They consisted of:

Cadet of the Year
Cadet Maj. Brandon West
Col. Bud Payton Public Affairs Officer of the Year
Maj. Bruce Kipp



Banquet Room View: The large crowd filled the hotel banquet room.

Communicator of the Year

Lt. Col. Richard Larson

John V. “Jack” Sorenson Cadet Programs Officer of the Year

Maj. Justin Johnson

Operations Officer of the Year

Capt. Neil Schmid

Cadet Programs Officer of the Year

Capt. Shannon Hofer

Drug Demand Reduction Member of the Year

Capt. Sharon Moad

Aerospace Education Officer of the Year

Capt. David Small

One of the highlights of the banquet was the “year-in-review” slideshow which highlighted some of the more serious aspects of what SDWG does, but also included some of the lighter moments as well. The Wing thanks Cadet 1st Lt. Sullivan Busch for preparing this year’s entertaining look back at SDWG activities during 2013.

Sunday, 27 April, was set aside for workshops and breakout sessions for the senior members on a variety of key aspects of Wing operations and administration. A special program had also been set up to keep the cadets active and engaged. It was a long and busy weekend for all the attendees but at the end the universal comment was that it had all been enjoyable, worthwhile, informative and instructive.

Planning has already begun for the 2015 Wing Conference and Awards Banquet. 📅



Maj. Justin Johnson, Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, receives the SDWG Cadet Programs Officer of the Year Award.



Capt. David Small, Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, receives the SDWG Aerospace Education Officer of the Year Award.



Cadet Maj. Brandon West, Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, receives the SDWG Cadet of the Year Award.



Maj. Bruce Kipp, Wing Staff, receives the SDWG Public Affairs Officer of the Year Award.



Capt. Neil Schmid, Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, receives the SDWG Operations Officer of the Year Award.



Lt. Col. Rick Larson, Wing vice commander, receives the Communicator of the Year Award.

Newest Pilot in South Dakota Wing; My Flight Training in Civil Air Patrol

*By Cadet Col. William Small, CAP
Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron (Spearfish)
with input from CAP Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP; Col. John Seten, CAP;
Lt. Col. Gary Hewett, CAP; and Capt. David Small, CAP*

South Dakota Wing has a brand new pilot, Cadet Col. William Small. On 5 February, he traveled from his home in Spearfish to Brookings in a CAP aircraft. In Brookings he met with FAA Designated Pilot Examiner John Barney who administered his practical and oral tests and the flight checkride for a private pilot's certificate. William flew to Brookings as a student pilot but returned to Rapid City as "pilot-in-command" of the CAP aircraft.

William was accompanied to Brookings by his chief flight instructor, CAP Lt. Col. Gary Hewett, himself a Certified Flight Instructor (CFI), who spent many hours closely working with William on the entire process. William also received training and advice from CFIs (and CAP members) Marty Larson, Jerry Densmore and Maj. Craig Goodrich.

This is the story in William's own words:

Up until the second half of the year 2012, I never truly considered the possibility of getting my Private Pilot's certificate. Even when my brother (Cadet Capt. David Small) got his



Cadet Colonel William Small

Private Pilot's certificate, I did not plan to pursue one myself. Multiple events in 2012 slowly made me change my mind. A lot of it had to do with my situation in Civil Air Patrol. After the summer of 2012, I had attained the Spaatz Award and completed multiple summer activities. It was in this slight down time that I thought, hesitantly, it might be interesting to give flying a shot. I had the time and opportunity, so why not.

My first step was asking my parents, somewhat timidly, if they would mind if I asked Lt. Col. Gary Hewett (my brother's primary flight instructor) about the possibility of flight training. My parents, who like flying too, unsurprisingly said, "Yes." So, I



William as pilot-in-command of a CAP aircraft. Left Seat – Photo by Capt. David Small

went ahead and met with Hewett to discuss the process, requirements, etc., to get my Private Pilot's certificate. Going into that meeting, I was unsure and nervous. I came out realizing that the process involved more than I had thought. However, I concluded that I could do it. This article describes the experience.

I got my medical/student pilot certificate on November 12, 2012. My first instruction flight was on December 12 (which was my only flight in a Cessna-182, not a Cessna-172). Flight training progressed with a couple flights a month, until a trip or activity would disrupt it, and then back to a couple flights a month. This was the pattern of most of my flight training.

Early on in my training there were two problems I had to work around. The first was that I am colorblind. This caused me to have restrictions on my medical certificate. I did manage to get them removed later by demonstrating I could see different colors. The second difficulty was that I often

get airsick in small airplanes, even if I am in the pilot's seat. This caused me some discomfort in my early training, but luckily it went away.

The second half of 2013 saw an increase in my training activity. Mostly notably, on September 3rd, I made my first solo flight.

This was a significant development in my flight training and for me. Although only a short flight, it changed my outlook and gave me new motivation. Up until then I had told myself that I could stop at any point if I wanted to. However, during that flight, I found that flying was just fun! It made all the training worth it and I decided resolutely to finish the process.

Even though I'd soloed, there was still more to do, such as taking the FAA written examination. Finding and getting to a testing center for the test was interesting. There aren't any nearby, so in the end I took the test in Greensboro, North Carolina. Then there was



CAP Lt. Col. Gary Hewett, William's chief flying instructor, congratulates SD's newest private pilot. Photo by Paul Hanusa, FBO manager at Brookings Airport



Designated Pilot Examiner John Barney congratulates William after his successful checkride. Photo by Lt. Col. Gary Hewett

the Private Pilot Practical test. Towards the end of 2013 serious talk started about when I would take the practical. Now, even though that was a positive sign, it made me nervous. This was because I felt I did not know enough. This was not a new feeling for me. Before my first solo flight, and again before my longest solo cross country, I was nervous and unsure. However, all these times it turned out I was ready. So I had confidence that the practical would be the same.

Come February 2014, I was getting tired. Therefore, it was with some relief when February 5 was set as the date for me to take the practical. However, as I mentioned before, nervousness also came. Now, taking the practical was more complicated than originally planned. Long story short, there was no one available in western South Dakota to administer the test during the time period I needed to take it, so I had to go to Brookings. Lt. Col. Hewett and I flew to Brookings the day before the practical in order to give me more experience with various procedures, navigation, etc., during my last training flight. Lt. Col. Hewett had me visit several different airports on the way. When we arrived in Brookings we had to put the plane in a heated hangar since it was 19° below zero Fahrenheit.

Thursday, February 6, 2014 was the big day. My goal was to come into it well rested and relaxed. Unfortunately, that didn't work out as planned. The excitement kept me awake later Wednesday night than was ideal, and during the night my mind kept going over my aviation knowledge. So, come morning, I was not exactly rested and relaxed. I was OK, though, and ready to go! But our transportation wasn't. The loaner van from the airport did not want to start in the cold. Eventually someone at the airport came to pick us up so I could get to my appointment with the examiner on time.



Designated Pilot Examiner John Barney administers the private pilot exams to William. Photo by Lt. Col. Gary Hewett

Once again, I proved I was ready despite being nervous, as I successfully passed both the oral and flight portions of the Private Pilot Practical test. Needless to say, once I knew I passed I was happy and relieved although it didn't sink in right then that I had successfully completed my flight training process and had become a Private Pilot. The rest of the day was a simple process of paperwork, calling my parents with the good news, and flying back to Rapid City. The flight back was my first flight as a certified pilot, and that felt good!

Now, after the flight back and during the next couple days various people found out I was a pilot. A question I got asked multiple times was, "What are you going to do to celebrate?" The answer was, first thing the next week I get my wisdom teeth removed. That is not the best "celebration" I have ever had. My choice for celebration is to simply fly!

Another question I have been asked is why I decided to pursue my Private Pilot certificate. This is a difficult question to answer. I can tell the story of how I wasn't planning on it at first, or give reasons such as it looks good on my resume. Probably the truest answer though, is that I enjoy flying and look forwards to doing it for years to come. ■



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 19, 2014

In historic vote, House approves Congressional Gold Medal for Civil Air Patrol

Medal to honor founding members' World War II service

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. – When the founding members of Civil Air Patrol, the U.S. Air Force auxiliary, risked life and limb to help protect the home front during the early days of World War II, they weren't looking for recognition.

Some seven decades later, though, they're receiving it, thanks to the U.S. House of Representatives' voice vote Monday afternoon to award CAP a Congressional Gold Medal for its volunteer service during the war, when more than 120,000 members stepped up to support the military effort and help keep the nation secure. The Senate approved the gold medal legislation a year ago. [A new CAP website](#) provides full coverage of CAP's Congressional Gold Medal journey, including vintage photos, bios of living World War II veterans, nationally renowned veterans, B-roll video and blog posts.

Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, who introduced [the Senate legislation](#) in February 2013, hailed the House vote Monday. "I am delighted to see this bill receive final approval," said Harkin, commander of CAP's Congressional Squadron. "The men and women of Civil Air Patrol stepped up and served their country when it needed them during the darkest days of World War II, and it's time we recognized them and thanked them for their service."

Rep. Michael McCaul, R-Texas, who introduced the gold medal proposal in the House, praised the legacy CAP's founders established.

"The awarding of the nation's highest civilian honor, the Congressional Gold Medal, to the members of the Civil Air Patrol ensures that long overdue and proper recognition has finally been bestowed upon these brave men," McCaul said.

"The Civil Air Patrol's valiant efforts in defending our coastline, providing combat services and flying dangerous humanitarian missions in America during World War II embodies the American

Spirit of volunteerism. These brave men were an integral part in defending not only our homeland but also our principles of freedom and liberty.

"I am proud Congress has taken this step to recognize all of the important work the Civil Air Patrol did," he said.


CAP was founded Dec. 1, 1941, a week before the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Within three months, CAP members were using their own planes to fly anti-submarine missions off the East and Gulf coasts, where German U-boats were sinking American ships carrying oil and other vital supplies to the Allies. By the time that mission ended Aug. 31, 1943, CAP's coastal patrols had flown 86,685 missions totaling 244,600 hours and than 24 million miles. Seventy-four planes sent out from coastal patrol bases crashed into the water; 26 CAP members were killed.

Elsewhere, CAP's airborne missions throughout the U.S. included border patrols, target-towing for military trainees, fire and forest patrols, searches for missing people and aircraft, disaster relief, emergency transport of people and supplies, and orientation flights for future pilots. Many from the organization's ranks went on to join the Army Air Forces.

Civil Air Patrol's national commander, Maj. Gen. Chuck Carr, said, "The heroic service provided by our members during World War II helped save lives and preserve our nation's freedom. I am very grateful they are finally receiving the recognition they so deserve."

CAP's legacy of selfless service for the nation and its communities continues today. In all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, CAP members stand ready to respond to such challenges as natural and manmade disasters and searches for missing aircraft or individuals.

#capgoldmedal

Civil Air Patrol, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, is a nonprofit organization with 60,000 members nationwide, operating a fleet of 550 aircraft. CAP, in its Air Force auxiliary role, performs about 85 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and is credited by the AFRCC with saving an average of 70 lives annually. Its unpaid professionals also perform homeland security, disaster relief and drug interdiction missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. The members play a leading role in aerospace education and serve as mentors to more than 25,000 young people currently participating in the CAP cadet programs. CAP received the World Peace Prize in 2011 and has been performing missions for America for 72 years. CAP also participates in Wreaths Across America, an initiative to remember, honor and teach about the sacrifices of U.S. military veterans. Visit www.goctaairpatrol.com or www.capvolunteernow.com for more information. 

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Winter Survival Skills: Improvised Snowshoes For Walking In Heavy Snow

*By Capt. Sharon Moad, CAP
Crazy Horse Composite Squadron (Custer)*

Winter Storm Atlas hammered South Dakota in early October 2013 dumping over six feet of snow in some areas of the Black Hills. The possibility of the squadron having to conduct a ground search and rescue mission in such conditions was the impetus for an emergency services class on the techniques for deep snow rescue.

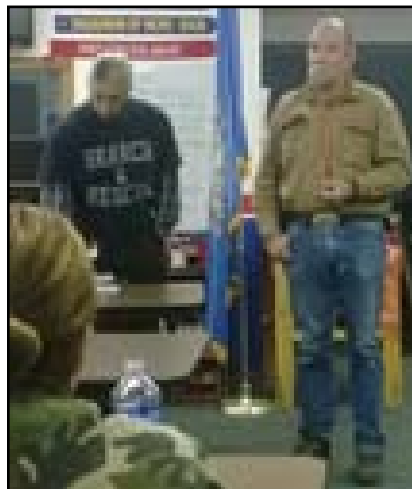
The Crazy Horse Composite Squadron in the town of Custer in the southern Black Hills asked the Custer County Search and Rescue Team to teach a class to squadron members on the hazards of search and rescue in extreme temperatures and heavy snow with emphasis on ice rescue and how to make improvised snowshoes.

Mr. Rick March and Mr. Jeff Frisco of Custer County Search and Rescue came to the squadron headquarters where they presented a very informative video on ice-on-water rescue and how to survive if you fall through the ice into deep water. They then explained the signs, symptoms and dangers of hypothermia.

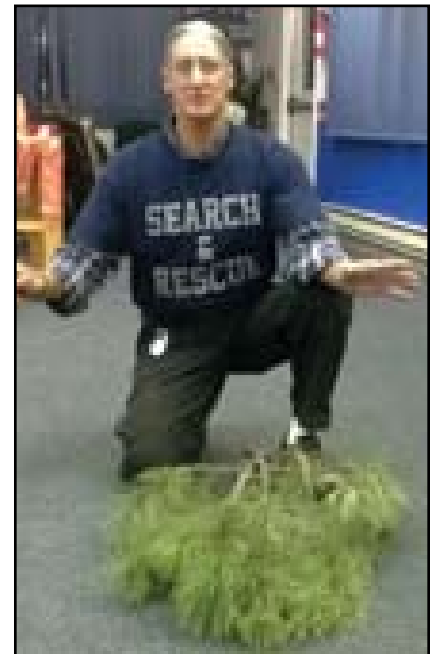
The second part of their presentation was a hands-on class on how to make improvised snowshoes from pine tree branches. Squadron members were taught to use two small branches for each foot. Place the

“bushy” ends over each other at a slight angle leaving the stick end to the back and using some type of cord, string, or other material tie the branches together. To use the snowshoes you place your foot onto the branches slightly back of the middle and tie them onto your boot using cord or even the top end of your boot laces (still partially laced in your boot). These improvised snowshoes allow your weight to be distributed over a larger area so you do not sink as deeply into the snow when you walk. Depending on the distance to be traveled it may be necessary to periodically replace these improvised snowshoes.

Like regular snowshoes there is a special technique in using this improvised type. As you



Jeff Frisco (left) and Rick March (right) present their hypothermia class to the squadron.



Jeff Frisco demonstrates how to make a snowshoe out of pine branches.

step forward drag the foot rather than using a heel down step. This shuffling motion is similar to that used by cross-country skiers. In addition, when you need to travel downslope or downhill a side step is used rather than a normal walking step.

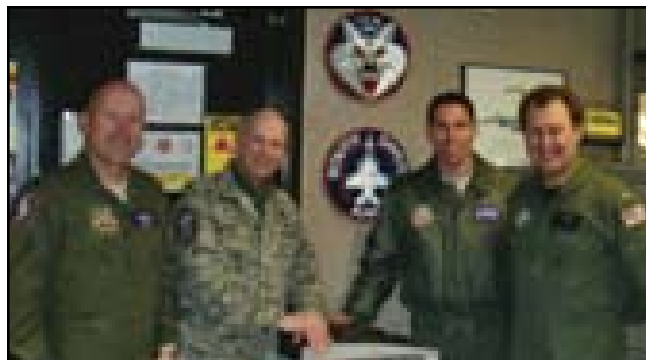
After learning how to make improvised snowshoes the participants made survival bracelets and lanyards from parachute cord either to wear or to put in their 24-hour packs. These items have enough cord that, when undone, they can be used to tie the pine branches together and onto your foot. 📷

Low-Level Route Survey: SDWG Flies in Support of South Dakota Air National Guard

*By Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP
SDWG PAO*

Each year since 1998, the South Dakota Air National Guard (SDANG) requests South Dakota Wing to conduct a Low-Level Route Survey (LLRS) of certain military training air routes and the aerial Military Operations Area (MOA). The purpose of the LLRS missions is to identify, photograph and report uncharted obstructions, usually antenna towers, and noise sensitive areas such as farms, livestock pens and feedlots, which should be avoided by SDANG pilots flying in these areas. CAP LLRS flights are flown in the spring and summer. The flight crew consists of a Mission Pilot, a Mission Observer, and a Mission Scanner. They fly along specific air routes at an altitude of 1,000 feet.

In 2013, SDWG LLRS missions surveyed nine air routes from South Dakota into Iowa and Nebraska and several sectors of the O'Neill MOA in northeast Nebraska. The missions required a total of 46.6 hours of flight time and covered nearly 5,000 miles.



(L-R): Lt. Col. Greg Lair, 175th Fighter Squadron Commander, SDANG; SMSgt (Lt. Col., CAP) Rick Larson, SDANG; Capt. Jerry Grotjohn, 175th Fighter Squadron, SDANG; Capt. Neil Schmid, CAP. Photo by SSgt Garret Gibbs, SDANG

Whenever SDWG flies LLRS a command post is set up for command, control and communications support for the aircraft. Wing vice commander Lt. Col. Rick Larson serves as LLRS Incident Commander. Capt. Neil Schmid of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron is the Project Officer and Lead Planner for LLRS missions.

On 5 February 2014, CAP officers Capt. Schmid and Lt. Col. Larson met with two officers of the South Dakota Air National Guard's 114th Fighter Wing; Lt. Col. Greg Lair, Commander of the 175th Fighter Squadron (also a CAP pilot) and Capt. Jerry Grotjohn, 175th Fighter Squadron Airspace Manager, to brief them on the results of SDWG's 2013 Low-Level Route Survey missions and to begin making plans for LLRS missions in 2014.

SDWG's first LLRS mission of 2014 was flown in late April.



This cluster of antenna towers on Turkey Ridge could pose a hazard to low-flying, fast-moving military aircraft. Photo by SDWG

South Dakota's Joe Foss Honored in Arizona

By Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP, South Dakota Wing PAO

Photos Credit CAP 1st Lt. Mark Watson, used with permission of the Arizona Wing

The South Dakota Wing of the Civil Air Patrol is pleased to report that South Dakota native Joe Foss has been honored in Arizona. Members and the Color Guard of CAP's Yuma Composite Squadron 508 of the Arizona Wing attended a ceremony in which the honor was bestowed.

Foss was honored by having an aircraft hangar named for him at a dedication ceremony at the new Aviation Industrial Center in the Defense Contractor Complex at Yuma International Airport in Yuma, Arizona.

Marine Corps (MCAS) Yuma shares facilities with Yuma International Airport in much the same way as Joe Foss Field/Air National Guard Base shares facilities with Sioux Falls Regional Airport. MCAS Yuma is home to multiple squadrons of Marine Corps aircraft.

The Aviation Industrial Center, within the Defense Contractor Complex at the airport is a single structure housing a hangar plus space for offices and engineering shops. The huge, 24,000 square foot hangar was dedicated as the "Joe Foss Hangar" at the ceremony.

In the background of the photo the Marine Corps variant of the new F-35B "Lightning

II" Joint Strike Fighter is partly visible. The Aviation Industrial Center will fill a vital role in the research and development of advanced technologies for the military and civilian aerospace industry.

Joseph Jacob "Joe" Foss (1915-2003) was the leading fighter ace of the Marine Corps during World War II. In 1943 he received the Medal of Honor for his actions during the Guadalcanal campaign in the Pacific. After the war, in 1946, Foss was appointed a lieutenant colonel in the South Dakota National Guard where he founded the state's Air National Guard. Ultimately he rose to the rank of Brigadier General. In civilian life Foss served two elected terms as a representative in the South Dakota legislature and, beginning in 1955, at age 39, he became the state's 20th (and youngest) governor. Joe was also two time president of the National Rifle Association, the first commissioner of the American Football League, and had a career as a television broadcaster as well.



Arizona Wing CAP 1st Lt. Janet Watson holds a piece of the hangar dedication banner.

Somewhat ironically, Foss gave Arizona aviation officials a bit of a black eye several years ago. At Phoenix's International Airport Joe, then 86, was detained by airport security when screening detected his Medal of Honor. Security officers, not recognizing what it was, wanted to confiscate and destroy the medal and related memorabilia he was carrying. Publicity of the incident embarrassed Arizona officials. In later years Foss and his wife lived in Scottsdale, AZ. Joe Foss died on January 1, 2003 and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia. 🇺🇸

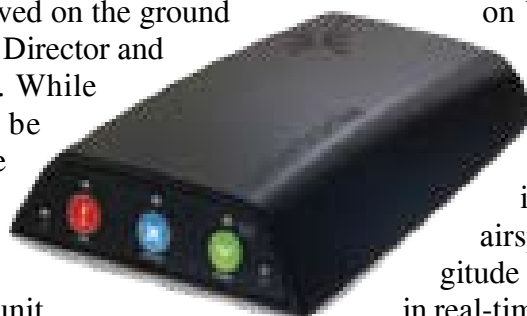
Spidertracks: Where Were We, Anyway?

*By Capt. Neil Schmid, CAP
Sioux Falls Composite Squadron (Sioux Falls)*

This article is written from the perspective of one who has flown Civil Air Patrol search and rescue missions and also served on the ground as an Air Operations Branch Director and as an Incident Commander. While the Spidertracks unit can be used in virtually any type of vehicle, this account is written from personal experience in emergency services missions with the unit in an aircraft.

WHERE IT COMES FROM

Spider units are manufactured by a company in New Zealand that was founded on an idea of how to improve safety in aviation businesses and the aviation industry in general. The primary aim was to develop a better, more affordable electronic device that uses modern communications technology to track an aircraft while in flight and, when necessary, assist in locating a downed aircraft.



Spider S3 unit

HOW WE USE IT

Once airborne, the Spider unit is switched on by simply plugging it into one of the aircraft's electrical outlets.

The Spider unit sends out an electronic ping every one or two minutes. In that ping is data indicating the flight track, altitude, airspeed, heading, and latitude & longitude coordinates. That ping is picked up in real-time by the Iridium Satellite Network. With 66 low earth orbit satellites Iridium has complete global coverage with no blank spots. Even if the satellite hearing the ping does not "see" the ground control station, it will pass the data on and it will be sent to the Spider server and can be viewed on the "spidertracks" website within seconds.

On the ground, if you have an Internet connection all you need do is a log in to the spidertracks website to view the real time tracks your aircraft create. There is no need for any special software.

If desired, the flight(s) in progress can be monitored in real time by pressing the "watch" button. By pressing the "mark" button, an identifying icon is dropped onto the track to distinguish between multiple aircraft flying different tracks. These tracks can be electronically overlaid on popular mapping sites for an excellent visual picture of the flight track. A special feature sends an alert if an aircraft's track stops moving and sends an SOS alert indicating a possible problem with the flight. Images of flight tracks can be downloaded from a website.

INCIDENT COMMANDER'S DREAM

The Civil Air Patrol uses the Incident Command System,



Map of primary waterways in Butte and Meade Counties.

a standardized organizational model developed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), to respond to emergency situations. Incident Commanders and Incident Command staff, or anyone who needs to know, can monitor the current position of CAP aircraft in near real time. This is an Incident Commander's dream – a near real time graphic display of the activity of his Spider equipped aircraft! This situational awareness allows an Incident Commander to order an alteration in search grid or change a plan with minimum loss of time which could be vital in a lifesaving event.

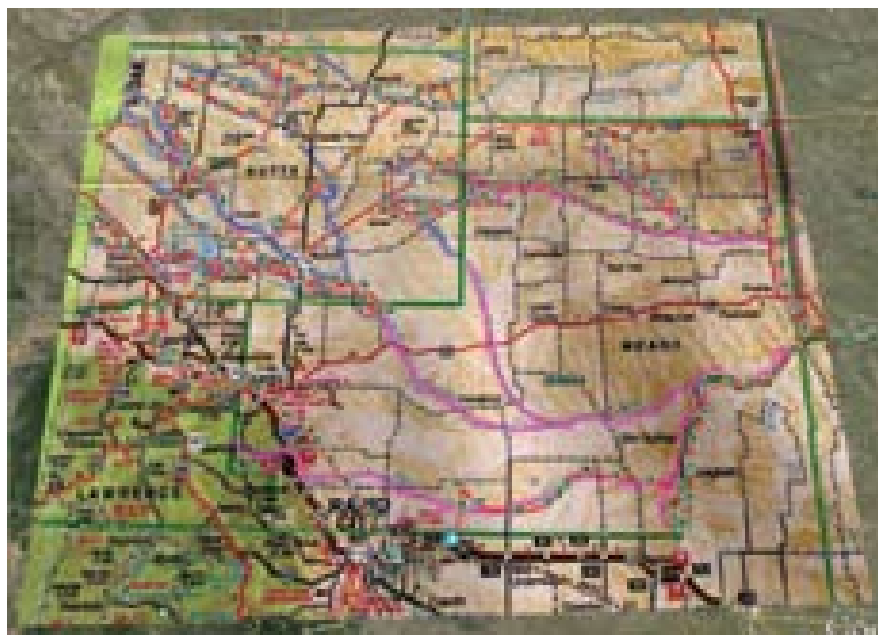
From an operational safety standpoint, the Spider unit continues to transmit data pings to the Iridium satellites even if radio communications with the aircraft is lost. The Spidertracks real-time graphic display reassures the Incident Commander that his out-of-radio-contact aircraft is still airborne and provides flight tracking data.

ACCOUNTABLE TO OUR CUSTOMER

As a mission pilot in a fast moving situation, there are many times when events unfold quickly and all of the information needed is either abbreviated or not available at all. Once an aircrew is staffed and search areas are defined, there still can be room for ambiguity and misinterpretation. If we knew exactly where the target of the search was, we probably wouldn't need to fly a search grid pattern.



Spider S3 unit mounted on an aircraft's cockpit dash.



Butte-Meade County waterways with partial Spidertracks overlay.

In the flat lands of eastern South Dakota, many times we use a standard grid search pattern to try to locate the target. Spidertracks shows exactly where we were and where we are going. In the final report, we can show our customer these results graphically and account for the search area covered. If future flights are required, the planning section can do a much better job establishing new search areas.

THE LOST IS FOUND

In April 2012, an elderly man was reported missing from a central South Dakota town. The county sheriff's office informed South Dakota Wing that the man, who had symptoms of dementia, was lightly dressed and provided us the make, model and color of his vehicle.

Spring weather problems hampered aerial search activities for two days, but on the third day a three-person aircrew was assembled and launched by mid-afternoon. The initial search area was approximately one hour west of the aircrew's home base. However, after flying the first few legs of the search grid pattern, the crew was notified by the Mission Base that they were in the wrong place. We were searching the wrong county. After a quick adjustment to the flight plan, the search continued for the next hour.

As darkness began to fall the flight crew radioed Mission Base and informed them that "we are going to make one more pass and return to base." As the aircraft banked to return home the Mission Scanner said "I think that I see the car!" Sure

First Flight

*By Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP
South Dakota Wing PAO*



Cadet Airman Malia enjoying her very first ride in a CAP aircraft.

Cadet Airman Malia Goodrich experienced her first flight in a Civil Air Patrol aircraft on Saturday, February 1. At the aircraft's controls was her dad, Maj. Craig Goodrich, commander of the Rushmore Composite Squadron in Rapid City. The day dawned sunny, a bit windy and very, very cold. The wind chill factor was well below zero. Both the experienced airman and the eager young aviatrix were very thankful that they were able to do the preflight checks in a heated hangar. As can be seen in the photo they both enjoyed the orientation ride. 📷

Spidertracks

Continued . . .

enough, the car and the missing man were found in a remote rural area near a pond on an abandoned farmstead. The car was not visible from any road so locating the subject by ground search could have taken months to accomplish.

The graphic representation of the grid search pattern being flown by the CAP aircraft on the spidertracks website alerted the Incident Commander to the fact that it was searching in the wrong county. As a result he was able to redirect the aircraft to the correct county resulting in the "find". Without Spidertracks, the aircrew could have searched the wrong county without tangible results.

LIVESTOCK DISASTER RECOVERY

A fluke, early-autumn blizzard began in western South Dakota on 3 October 2013 with heavy rain that quickly turned to snow. By the next day, as much as four feet of snow had fallen which, combined with 70-mph winds, created monster drifts that paralyzed much of the western half of the state and caught livestock still in their summer grazing land.

South Dakota wing received a number of tasks from the state and the affected counties to survey the extent of the damage and losses in livestock. One of the most challenging missions was received from the Offices of Emergency Management in Butte County and Meade County. They requested SDWG conduct an aerial survey to pinpoint the locations of dead livestock in their county's major waterways.

This mission was unusually complex because we were tasked by our customers to fly "named waterways" in two counties in Western South Dakota. This meant developing meandering courses, which show up on the official State map and documenting cattle losses. One SDWG aircraft was assigned to each county for this mission and with tasked with flying over the streams and rivers within the assigned geographic area.

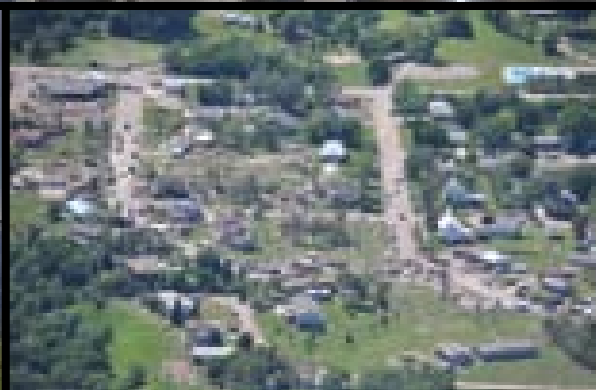
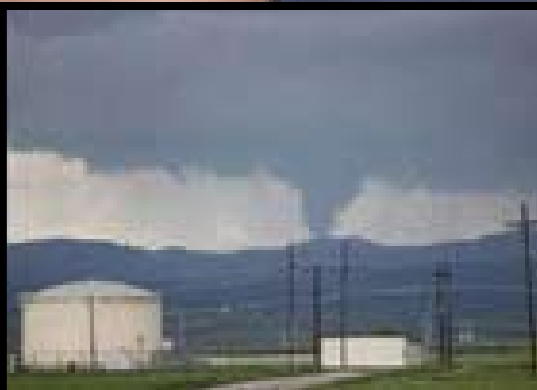
By using Spidertracks, a graphic depiction and full accountability of the areas flown was presented to the State of South Dakota and to Butte and Meade County officials. The State was quite pleased with the outcome and was rewarded with loss recovery from Federal Agencies which helped relieve the suffering endured by area ranchers. 📷



South Dakota *Wing Roundup*



CIVIL AIR PATROL • FALL 2014 • UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY





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COVER PHOTO BACKGROUND: Lt. Vincent Brown takes mission photos of areas of damage for emergency management authorities.
Inset photos: LEFT: Flooding along the Big Sioux River; CENTER: Black Hills tornado near Silver City; RIGHT: Damage caused by the Wessington Springs tornado.

Aerospace Education / Emergency Services Workshop



*By Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP, Wing PAO
Maj. David Small, Jr., CAP, Wing Chief of Staff
Lt. Col. Bill Collister, CAP, Wing Aerospace Education Officer*

Twenty eight SDWG members took part in a joint Aerospace Education (AE) – Emergency Services (ES) workshop held in Pierre from Thursday, 7 August, to Saturday, 9 August.

Maj. David Small supervised nine cadets in CAP's Model Rocketry Program at the Pierre airport. Four cadets, Cadet Tech. Sgt. Austin Rauscher, Cadet Airman Nick Kochutin, Cadet 2nd Lt. Jared Doyle and Cadet Master Sgt. Josiah Huntington, completed all three phases of the model rocketry program to earn the coveted CAP rocketry badge. Rockets were launched near the airport on Saturday with a single stage rocket constructed and flown by Cadet Master Sgt. Josiah Huntington reaching a measured altitude of 383.98 feet.



Winners of the CAP Model Rocketry Badge (L-R) Cadet Master Sgt. Josiah Huntington, Cadet 2nd Lt. Jared Doyle, Cadet Tech. Sgt. Austin Rauscher, Cadet Airman Nick Kochutin.

Cadet 1st Lt. Sullivan Busch, under the supervision of Wing Director of Operations Maj. Nick Gengler, led 16 Cadets and one Senior Member in a field training exercise focused on the skills employed by CAP ground search and rescue teams. Search and rescue teams were formed and



A model rocket launches into the sky during hands-on aerospace education.

deployed for realistic training scenarios.

We had special guests fly in from the North Dakota Wing in a FLIR-equipped CAP Cessna-182. The Forward Looking Infrared Radar is excellent for locating the heat signature of individuals at night or in heavy cover. NDWG pilots Capt. Dan Villas and Lt. Graham Frost and FLIR operator



The balsa wood and glider aviation crew with guest.



North Dakota Wing FLIR operator Capt. Daryl Billick explains operation of the sensor to cadets.

Capt. Daryl Billick set up a static display of the FLIR Cessna-182 at the Pierre airport and several cadets got to operate the sensors.

On Friday and Saturday Capt. Gary Dettman taught the intricacies of flight fundamentals and control to a group of eight cadets. Utilizing STEM kits sent by CAP National HQ the group built rubber band powered balsa wood aircraft and tested changing various aspects of flight dynamics and flight configurations. Capt. Dettman also supervised the cadets as they assembled and, after training on a remote control aircraft simulator, flew a remote controlled powered glider with a six foot wingspan. The model operated at a range of nearly a quarter mile and performed loops and other acrobatic maneuvers.

Also on Friday, cadets and seniors toured the South Dakota National Guard Museum where Wing Historian Maj. Todd Epp had just opened



Lt. Col. Collister musters the troops for some close order drill.



A ground search team takes a break between training scenarios.

the new SDWG exhibit. The opening of the exhibit was further highlighted as Wing Aerospace Education Officer Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese, with the assistance of other SDWG members, manned tables for airplane building, model rocketry and parachuting to entertain and educate three groups of Pierre Boys and Girls Club members from K-4th Grade and their parents and teachers, approximately 60 people. Maj. Epp thrilled the crowd with demonstration flights of his quadcopter.

The children loved making straw rockets, parachutes and paper airplanes. Lt. Col. DeWeese answered many aerospace questions from children and adults. The highlight, however, may have been when Lt. Col. DeWeese put a group of Boys and Girls Club kids through close order drills and marched them around the museum while they were dressed in military garb. The children loved it. Lt. Col. DeWeese had them whipped into shape in short order. 🇺🇸



Visiting "troops" render a hand salute.



Commander's Corner

*By Lt. Col. Rick Larson
South Dakota Wing Vice Commander*




"This has to be a record!" I said to South Dakota Wing Commander Col. John Seten. "In my many years of CAP involvement, I've never seen this level of commitment from so many members in such a few months". The boss agreed. If you can't believe it, just review the latest issues of our monthly Skychaser electronic newsletter. During the past several months, SDWG CAP members provided critical situational awareness and assisted other response agencies as tornados and flooding hit the region. Another June tasking aided a missing person search in Butte County. SDCAP supported major USAF missions such as air defense intercept, flown thousands of miles in seven different states during low-level route surveys, and conducted two search and rescue training missions. Our aircrews continue to support state wildlife tracking efforts with regular missions, the latest in tracking bobcat and elk. We patrolled the skies high above the largest Christian music festival in the nation, assisting local authorities. The Big Sioux cyber-security team in Brookings earned top CAP team honors in the annual CyberPatriot competition. Cadets proudly marched in several community parades, attended the Joint Dakota Encampment at Camp Grafton, ND; Our Color Guards presented Old Glory at many events. Several Cadets attended flight academies and those at National Blue Beret activity earned the coveted St. Albans pin for wear on their distinctive berets.

Other events such as supporting the 114th Fighter Wing Family Day "Wings and Wheels" show and the recent attack response exercise

go far towards cementing the "One Force" team. Our crews represented CAP at Ellsworth AFB's Open House, showing AF members and their families CAP aircraft and capabilities, and at the Rapid City Regional Airport Open House supporting the Hayward Air Rally. Aerospace Education was busy too, with glider operations and a record amount of powered orientation flying statewide. We handcrafted and launched model rockets during the Aerospace Weekend in Pierre. Maj. Todd Epp worked with the state National Guard Museum in Pierre to develop and present the first ever CAP display!

I'm sure I've missed other equally impressive events and accomplishments!

The take always? For the second time in three years SDWG received the North Central Region's award for excellence in Search and Rescue and Disaster Response. A first ever "highly effective" rating from the U.S. Air Force for our search and rescue teams, and despite our small size earning "top-ten" status in the nation for aircraft utilization! I challenge any other CAP member from any other Wing to have that much to brag about in ten years.... and SDWG did all that in six months. Wow!

Our Wing members exemplify excellence in all that they do, putting service before self and integrity first. South Dakotans to the core. Your continuing efforts and successes make South Dakota Wing the best of the best! Col. Seten and I are humbled to have the opportunity to lead such outstanding Americans! Keep CAPing! 

Tops in CAP Cyber-Security

*By Capt. Shannon Hofer, CAP
Commander, Big Sioux Composite Squadron*

The evening of 26 June brought a special honor to the Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings. We were pleased to have two guests present representing the Air Force Association; Mr. Ron Mielke, President of the Air Force Association in South Dakota, and Mr. Ed Revell, President of AFA's Sioux Falls "Dacotah Chapter" visit us. They came to present the "Civil Air Patrol Champion Award" to the squadron's Cyber-Security Team. The team earned this significant honor by coming in first of the 320 CAP teams that took part in CyberPatriot-VI.

CyberPatriot-VI, the annual Air Force Association's national cyber-defense competition that challenges high-school students to resolve real-life cyber-security situations began in mid-November 2013.



(L-R) Mr. Revell, Cadet Senior Airman Zebadiah Nelson, Cadet Capt. Joshua Klosterman, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Chris Dinnel, Coach Cadet 2nd Lt. Tyler Gross, Mr. Mielke

During two online qualification rounds the Big Sioux team faced realistic computer network threats at their home location seeking out weaknesses in simulated online networks and working to defend those networks from threat scenarios. A Cisco networking challenge was also a part of the competition. The team was scored according to how quickly and effectively they established and maintained the secure networks. The Big Sioux team was one of only 44 teams to advance to the semifinals held in January 2014. In the semifinals they faced similar but more complex and




Members of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron Cyber-Security Team were (L-R) Cadet Amn Zebadiah Nelson, Cadet Capt. Joshua Klosterman, Cadet Master Sgt. Chris Dinnel, Cadet Master Sgt. Laura Rudnik and team coach the then Cadet 2nd Lt. Tyler Gross. Not shown are team member Cadet Airman Josiah Jorenby and team mentor the then Lt. Shannon Hofer.

sophisticated computer network threats. After an exceptional performance in the semifinals, the Big Sioux Composite Squadron team was named one of 14 All Service Division national finalists and received an all-expenses-paid trip to the National Finals competition in Maryland.

For the third year in a row, Big Sioux's Cyber-Security Team returned to Washington, D.C. in March 2014, to compete in the national championship round. At the National Finals, the only in-person round, the Big Sioux team competed to defend virtual networks and mobile devices from a professional aggressor team. The National Finalists also faced-off in three additional competition components: the Digital Cyber Crime Scene Challenge and the Cisco Networking Challenge, both of which returned from previous seasons, and the Digital Forensics Challenge. These extra challenges broaden the cyber-security experience and expose teams to new elements of the many career opportunities available to them.

Within CyberPatriot-VI's All Services Division the squadron's Cyber-Security team placed seventh out of the 864 teams in the division.

The Air Force Association (AFA), the sponsoring organization, is a non-profit, independent, professional military and aerospace education association. Its mission is to promote a dominant United States Air Force and a strong national defense, and to honor Airmen and our Air Force Heritage. AFA has 200 chapters nationally and internationally representing more than 100,000 members. 

Aircraft “SAVE” at Spearfish

*By Lt. Col. Rodney “Buck” DeWeese, CAP
Wing Director of Aerospace Education*

Hurricanes don’t happen too often in the Black Hills. However, on Thursday evening, 26 June 2014, in Spearfish, weather conditions rivaled the storms usually seen at lower latitudes. A line of severe thunderstorms produced peak winds of 69 mph at the Spearfish airport; with sustained gusts not much less than that. Winds were clocked at 80 mph west of town in the same weather event.

The Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron in Spearfish was in the midst of its regular meeting while the howling winds rattled the squadron building. At one point Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Connor Caneva stepped out onto the small porch to peer at the angry skies. He noticed that a big, twin-engine Cessna-421 had come adrift and was rolling backwards across the ramp toward a row of parked cars. The aircraft had been parked across the direction of the wind. The force of the wind weather-vaned the plane, putting the nose into the wind, and caused it to jump the wooden wheel chocks. The Cessna then began to be blown backwards. The forecast had apparently under-predicted the storm’s intensity and the plane wasn’t tied down.


Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese and Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Rosby joined Cadet Caneva in running over to the scene. Their combined efforts managed to bring the aircraft to a halt just short of the parked cars. They re-chocked the aircraft’s wheels so it would not move, then the cadets took some clothesline type cord and braided it into a strong tie-down ropes to help secure the aircraft from the high wind. As a result the very expensive aircraft and some pricy automobiles were not damaged. After the aircraft had been secured the airport manager was called and the information passed along.

Though the Cessna-421 “rescue” was unex-




The aircraft CAP “saved” at Spearfish.

pected and was not associated with a specific mission as such, the CAP members were happy to participate in this “save,” that prevented airplane and automobile owners from untold inconvenience and expense. 🚗




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Big Sioux River Flooding Survey Mission


*By Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP
Wing PAO*

A week of severe weather in mid-June included torrential rain that produced wide-spread flooding in the East River area. The state Office of Emergency Management requested the Civil Air Patrol's South Dakota Wing conduct an aerial photographic survey on 19 June along the Big Sioux River from Sioux Falls to where it meets the Missouri River. Later in the day the Federal Emergency Management Agency requested that the photos of the flooding also be sent to them. What began as state tasking changed into a federal disaster relief mission.

Prior to receipt of the official mission tasking, Wing Commander Col. John Seten and Capt. Neil Schmid of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron flew a training flight over the Big Sioux and Rock Rivers in South Dakota, Minnesota

and Iowa to assess the scope and parameters of the official mission.

Once official tasking had been received a Cessna-182T from the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron was assigned the mission. The aircraft departed Sioux Falls Regional Airport at approximately 9:00am for the two hour sortie. The CAP aircrew consisted of Capt. Matt Meert (Mission Pilot), Capt. Karla West (Mission Scanner) and Lt. Robert Hinkhouse (Mission Observer). Capt. Neil Schmid served as the SDWG Incident Commander for the mission.

Over 250 photos were taken showing the flow, the spread of the flood waters and the damage caused. The photos were uploaded for federal and state emergency management officials' analysis and assessment. Photo used with permission of FEMA. 



View of a flooded area along the Big Sioux River near Sioux Falls.

Pierre Cadet Attends CAP Flight Academy in Mankato, MN

*By Lt. Col. Tam Gatje, CAP
Pierre Composite Squadron*

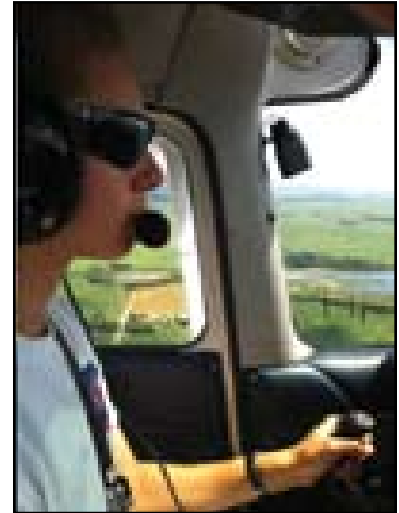
Cadet Technical Sergeant Hannah Becker of Pierre, a member of the South Dakota Wing's Pierre Composite Squadron, attended the North Central Region Joint Flight Academy held near Mankato, MN from 11-19 July. She was one of a number of CAP cadets from the South Dakota, Minnesota, Missouri, California and Florida Wings who participated.

The flight academy consisted of two schools, one for powered flight and one for gliding. Both schools provided students an excellent start to becoming pilots licensed by the FAA.

Cadet Becker attended the powered flight school. During the school the cadets experienced two sessions of flying each day and two sessions of ground school. Both are requirements to successfully complete the FAA's written and flying tests. Volunteer certified flight instructors taught the knowledge and skills the cadets will need. In addition, the instructors provided assistance in obtaining a FAA Type 3 Medical Certificate.

Cadet Becker commented that the high points of the academy were (especially) the flying and talking to other cadets about flying and "other


*Cadet Tech. Sgt.
Hannah Becker at
the controls during
flight training at the
joint flight academy.*



stuff". On the low end she thought the weather delays were the worst - having to hurry up and wait for good weather. Each of the ten cadets in the powered flight school successfully completed their supervised solo.

Cadets flying in the glider school received up to 25 flights and 25 hours of ground school instruction. They also completed their supervised gliding solo and two cadets completed their regular gliding solo.

When not actively flying or attending ground school, the cadets received a briefing and tour by one of the pilots of Mayo Clinic's "Mayo One" emergency medical helicopter who described their day-to-day operation. They also had the opportunity to tour two French Dassault Aviation business jets, a Falcon-20 and a Falcon-50, that are operated by North Star Aviation in Mankato.

The flight academy participants stayed in the dormitories of Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN. Meal service was provided by the college's cafeteria. 



Cadet Becker relaxes with some of her fellow cadet student pilots.

WWII CAP Congressional Gold Medal Update

*By Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP
Wing PAO*

On 30 May, President Obama signed Senate Bill 309 into law. The bill awards a Congressional Gold Medal to Civil Air Patrol for its service during World War II. This marks the first major recognition that CAP's members have received for their WWII service. The legislation recognizes the volunteer service of more than 120,000 men, women and teenagers who joined CAP immediately before and during the war. Fewer than 100 of these early members are believed to be alive today.

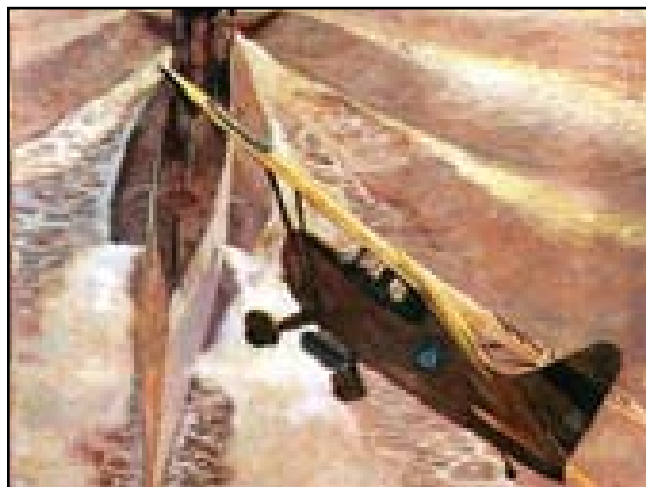
CAP was founded December 1, 1941, a week before the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the United States' entry into WWII. Within three months CAP organizations formed along the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts to carry out anti-submarine patrols to help protect the nation by warding off German U-boat attacks on American oil tankers bound for Allied nations. Over the next 15 months, CAP members used their own planes to watch for German subs. Those patrols accounted for 86,685 missions that involved 244,600 flight hours and over 24 million air miles. They sighted 173 submarines, are credited with dropping bombs that sank two subs, and located more than 300 survivors of U-boat attacks.

In the interior of the US, CAP's early members also took to the skies to patrol the nation's borders, tow targets for military training, watch for forest fires, conduct search and rescue missions, provide disaster relief, transport people and parts and conduct orientation flights for future pilots.

Overall the members of the Civil Air Patrol logged an estimated 750,000 hours of flight time during the war, Sixty-four members died in service during World War II.

More information about CAP's World War II service is available at CAP's Congressional Gold Medal website at: www.capgoldmedal.com.


A Congressional Gold Medal is to be awarded collectively to CAP members in recognition of their service and exemplary record during the



A CAP Aircraft closes in on a German submarine off the U.S. coast during World War II.

WWII. After presentation the gold medal will go to the Smithsonian Institution where it will be available for display and research.

- The U.S. Mint, with CAP's assistance, is working on several designs. Once these are complete the best design will be selected. After that, the gold CGM medal and bronze replicas will be struck.
- Congress, the White House and CAP will agree on an award ceremony date. A formal CGM award ceremony is envisioned for early 2015 in Washington, in the Rotunda of the Capitol with a special presentation ceremony later that day for veterans/families receiving the bronze replica medals. Veterans/families of veterans (who have already passed) not able to travel to Washington can receive replica medals in their home state at a later date.

To receive a replica medal a CAP veteran (or families of those who've passed) must be listed and validated as having been in CAP during WWII. List new names at http://capmembers.com/cap_national_hq/goldmedal/ on the link "Add Gold Medal Candidate". All entries must contain current contact information for either the veteran member or their family. 

CAP Supports 114th Fighter Wing Exercise

*By SDANG SMSgt Richard Larson, 114th Fighter Wing Emergency Manager,
(CAP Lt. Col., South Dakota Wing Vice Commander)*

In keeping with one of CAP's core missions, support of the USAF, six members of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron recently played a critical role in a way that benefitted both CAP and the airmen of the 114th Fighter Wing of the South Dakota Air National Guard at Joe Foss Field in Sioux Falls.

Playing the part of injured airmen, the CAP members were made up as "moulage" victims, simulating injuries sustained as participants in the Guard's attack response exercise. Led by CAP Captain Jerry Foy, himself an ANG veteran, the CAP crew underwent an extreme makeover by ANG medics from the 114th Medical Group. ANG Lieutenant Colonel Larry DeBuhr and his staff had a mission to assess Guard member's ability to perform self-aid and buddy care throughout the event, held on Saturday, 6 September. That's where the CAP crew came in.

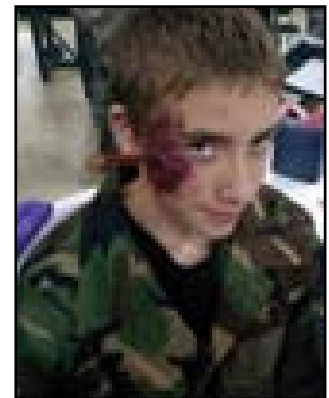
The CAP crew arrived on base and was moulaged with various simulated injuries, ranging from minor to major; burns, lacerations, amputations - all the trappings of a disaster. The crew then broke up into groups led by inspectors who traveled with the "wounded" throughout the base during exercise incidents.

The teams presented the "victims" in various work centers, gauging the response to the casualties, and assessing proper procedures to address



Four CAP "casualties" in moulage for the exercise.

the injuries. In CAP's emergency services role, the members also benefited from experiencing the responses, which can also be valuable in day-to-day life. The CAP "victims" were treated by ANG members who learned hands-on procedures. Fortunately, after expert treatment, everyone survived the exercise!



Cadet Christopher Schuppan has rather gruesome moulage applied prior to the exercise.



Six Sioux Falls Composite Squadron members in the Fighter Wing's Emergency Operation Center prior to the exercise. In the photo (L-R) CAP Lt. Melanie Schuppan, Cadet AAirman 1st Class Kyle Clement, Cadet Airman Christopher Schuppan, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Austin Cole, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Nicholas Nash, CAP Capt. Jerry Foy, USANG SMSgt (CAP Lt. Col.) Rick Larson, EOC Manager, and USANG Maj. Kevin Miller, EOC Director.

During the day-long event, the CAP crew was treated to a pizza lunch provided by Lt. Col. DeBuhr and a tour of the SDANG Emergency Operations Center, where they saw how complex responses by air assets are managed.

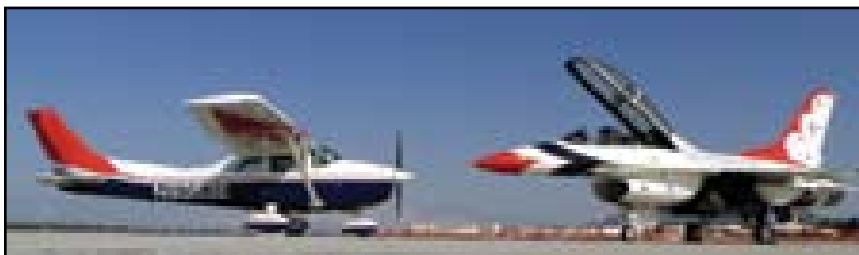
Lt. Col. DeBuhr commented that the dedication and professionalism of the CAP members aided greatly in the exercise evaluation, and thanked each member for their involvement. 🍕

Exercise Falcon Keynote 2014


By Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP, Wing PAO

SDWG continues to support the South Dakota Air National Guard by participating on three occasions as a target aircraft in SDANG Exercise Falcon Keynote 2014. The purpose of the exercises was to provide Sioux Falls' 114th Fighter Wing's alert aircrews training in aerospace control alert intercept procedures, a function of its Homeland Security mission.

A CAP Cessna-172P aircraft, based in Sioux Falls, acted as the target aircraft. The objective for the pilots of the F-16s of the 175th Fighter Squadron was to hone their skills in being able to quickly and safely intercept and evaluate a slow moving aircraft that could pose a security risk or



The “hare” and the “hound.” SDANG F-16 pilots will practice intercepting the CAP target aircraft.

that may have inadvertently strayed into restricted airspace. SDWG is pleased and proud to provide this cost effective support to SDANG by providing target aircraft for them to practice air intercept techniques. CAP partners with the USAF helping to provide a total force approach to readiness and enhanced national security. 

Pierre Cadets are All Wet


*By Lt. Col. Tam Gatje, CAP
Pierre Composite Squadron*

Several cadets and senior members of the Pierre Composite Squadron and a couple of guests participated in a six-hour raft trip down the Niobrara River in July. Lt. Col. Myra Christensen, Lt. Jon Becker, Cadet Tech. Sgt. Hannah Becker, Cadet Airman Brant Malfero, Cadet Margot Pearson, the parent of one of the cadets and two former cadets floated down the river from Berry Bridge to Stan's Landing.



(L-R) Cadets Hannah Becker, Brant Malfero and Margot Pearson cool off under a waterfall on the Niobrara River raft trip.

All was not just fun and frolic. The trip was also used to practice CAP related training. For example, before leaving Pierre everyone received a safety briefing on the possible hazards of the trip. This included water hazards while on the river, over exposure to the sun, the signs of heat exhaustion/stroke, the techniques of hot weather first aid and the constant need for good hydration. While en route to the river the cadets practiced map reading using an “old fashioned” paper map and plotting their current location using the vehicle's onboard GPS navigation system.

All the “floaters” reported that the trip was great fun and they want to do it again in the future. It was very relaxing without email or cell phones to worry about. 

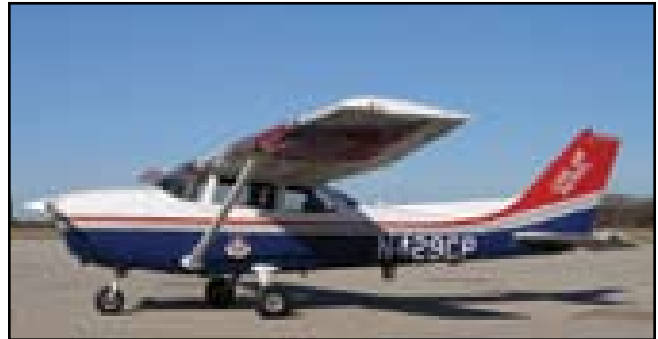
Garmin G400W Aircraft Navigation System

*By Maj. Craig Goodrich, CAP, Rushmore Composite Squadron and
Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP, Wing PAO*

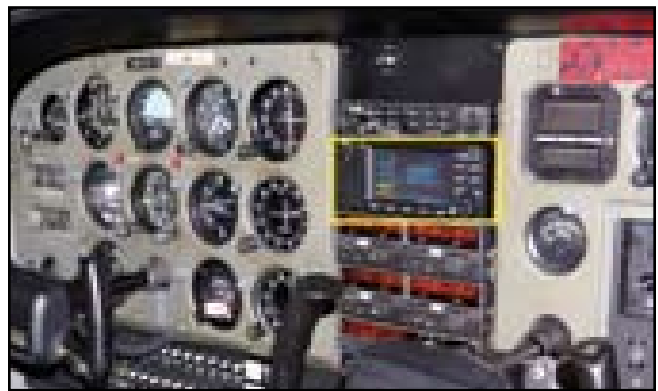
To date South Dakota Wing (SDWG) of the Civil Air Patrol has equipped two of its three Cessna-172 aircraft with the Garmin Company's G400W aircraft navigation system. Our third Cessna-172 will leave soon for a complete refurbishment to include a complete Garmin G500 digital flight system.

The G400W is the least expensive entry into the use of Wide Area Augmentation (WAAS) Global Positioning System (GPS) operation. While the G400W lacks some of the functionality, bells and whistles of more expensive Garmin systems, it offers significantly improved capability over older aircraft navigation systems. For example, the G400W offers faster position calculations and screen updates (5x per second), improved annunciation, dead reckoning (backup if the GPS signal is lost) and more informative status pages. With the G400W, a terrain database is standard (for improved awareness and safety), and it provides this information with greater resolution and precision.

So why is all this important to CAP? Well, WAAS is a fundamental improvement to GPS



A Civil Air Patrol Cessna-172.



Wide angle view of the aircraft instrument panel showing the placement of the G400W.



Close-up of the G400W panel and display.

accuracy. By adding a series of ground stations and geostationary satellites, WAAS GPS is typically five times more accurate than "regular" GPS. This means it is now possible to fly from point to point with greater accuracy, to more precisely conduct CAP search and rescue grid patterns, it makes instrument flying in low visibility safer, and it allows an approach into an airport with no local ground-based navigation aids; an important aspect to consider in sparsely settled South Dakota with less sophisticated airports, airfields and airstrips. The bottom line is that the Garmin G400W allows CAP pilots to fly with greater precision and greater safety as we carry out our emergency services missions. ■

2014 Joint Dakota Cadet Leadership Encampment



By Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP, Wing PAO

Each year the South and North Dakota Wings hold a joint summer encampment for their cadets. This year the North Dakota Wing hosted the encampment from 12-20 July at Camp Grafton at Devil's Lake, ND about 90 miles west of Grand Forks.

At the encampment, senior ranking cadets brought the skills learned at squadron, wing, regional, and national level activities to teach the younger cadets how to be better leaders. While the senior member staff present generally let the cadets run things, they were there as administrators, tutors and mentors.



Camp Grafton, ND. Site of the 2014 Joint Dakota Cadet Leadership Encampment.



Ground search team training in tracking aircraft emergency locator beacons.

Each annual encampment has a theme; for 2014 the theme was the Joint Dakota Cadet Leadership Encampment (JDCLE). This encampment taught the techniques of leadership and teamwork and instilled the spirit of honor, courage, and determination in the attendees. In keeping with CAP's status as official auxiliary of the Air Force the cadets also learned military customs and courtesies and drill and ceremonies. In addition, the cadets got a taste of military life by living in open bay



North Dakota and South Dakota Wings' participants at the 2014 JDCLE.

barracks and eating in a military dining facility. There were obstacle courses to run, repelling towers to traverse, leadership classes, physical fitness, and moral leadership guidance. The encampment ended with “the crucible” – a final test of endurance, and leadership.

Some of the highlights of the encampment were the cadets flying in a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter courtesy of the North Dakota Army Guard, and the use of the Guard’s high-tech small arms marksmanship simulator and Humvee operational trainer.

Lt. David Stockinger, of South Dakota Wing’s Sioux Falls Composite Squadron said, “It was amazing to watch cadets and senior members from different parts of the Dakotas come together with the same purpose to achieve a common objective”. Cadet Col. William Small, of SDWG’s Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, the Cadet Commander of this year’s JDCLE, said, “It was a great occasion for new cadets to learn leadership and discipline.”



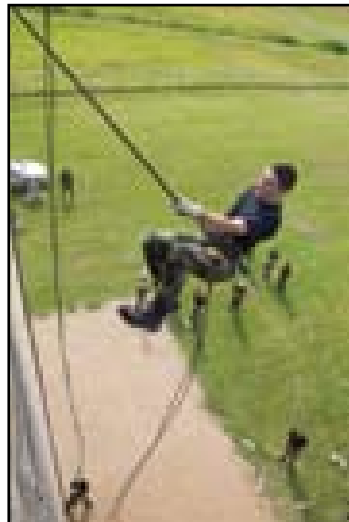
Attendees try out the ND National Guard’s high-tech small arms marksmanship simulator.



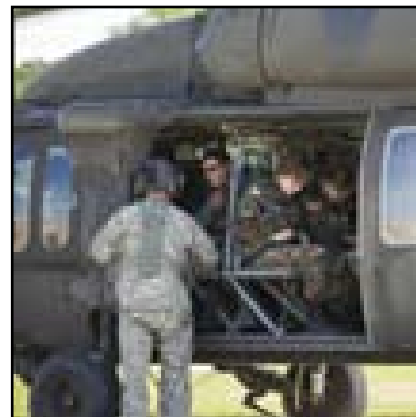
Attendees negotiate the rappelling tower on the obstacle course.



Cadets maneuver on the obstacle course in a teamwork/problem solving exercise.



Cadet descending the rappelling tower.



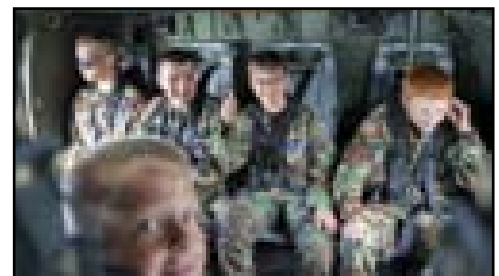
JDCLE attendees ride in a North Dakota Guard UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter.



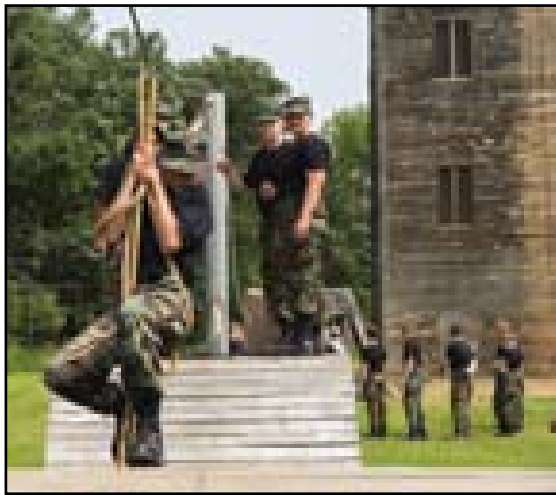
JDCLE attendees ride in a North Dakota Guard UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter.



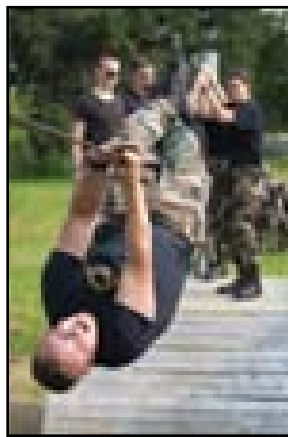
Cadets practice egress from the ND National Guard’s Humvee operational trainer.



JDCLE attendees ride in a North Dakota Guard UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter.



Cadets negotiate the rope slide on the obstacle course.



Cadets negotiate the rope crawl on the obstacle course.



Physical training/group jog.



Night maneuvers during the "the crucible".



Physical training/volleyball.



Uniform inspection.



Barracks room inspection.



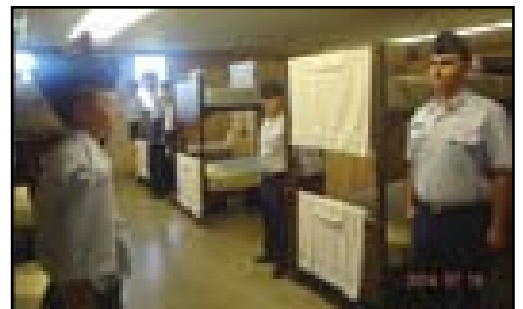
Camp Grafton dining facility, a favorite place for hungry teenagers.



ND Air Guard dining facility crew kept JDCLE participants well fed.



JDCLE graduation pass-in-review ceremony.



Barracks room inspection.

National Blue Beret

*By Capt. Karla West, CAP
Sioux Falls Composite Squadron*

Imagine an aviation event with over 500,000 visitors and over 10,000 aircraft. This is the Experimental Aircraft Association's (EAA) annual "AirVenture" airshow held in Oshkosh, WI. Through a partnership with the EAA the Civil Air Patrol provides a large contingent of cadets and officers to help the EAA manage the airshow. This contingent is called the "National Blue Beret" (NBB), a two week long experience like no other. CAP members are competitively selected from wings across the nation to participate in this prestigious event. As a result of their participation the cadets are authorized to wear the coveted blue beret with its prized St. Alban's pin.

This year, South Dakota Wing had four cadets receive the honor of representing our state at NBB. First time NBB Cadets were Capt. Nicole Schneider (Sioux Falls Composite Squadron), and 1st Lt. Sullivan Busch and Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Dinnel, both of Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings, and returning Blue Beret Maj. Brandon West (Sioux Falls Composite Squadron).

The first and most important mission of the NBB program is to assist the EAA with flight line marshaling operations. Cadets are posted along taxiways during the operational hours of the air show to direct pilots to their parking destinations. Cadets also staff two station towers to observe aircraft landing on each runway to help keep track of which aircraft are on the ground. The second mission is crowd control at the ultra-light and military aircraft areas. This includes one flight of cadets dedicated to standing guard around the clock for the aircraft of the "Thunderbirds", the USAF precision flying team. Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Christopher Dinnel excitedly commented, "Marshaling the Thunderbirds was one of the most amazing experiences I have ever had." The third mission is emergency services. This entails locating any lost or overdue aircraft by tracking its emergency locator beacon (ELT).

NBB Operations are based out of "the compound," as it is called. This compound includes a hangar for sleeping, an open field for formations,



2014 Civil Air Patrol National Blue Beret contingent.

a communications building and, most important to every teenage cadet, a mess hall. The compound is run entirely by CAP personnel. Daily responsibilities include everything from kitchen duty to cleaning bathrooms and doing laundry for the 140 cadets and 42 senior members. With the number of cadets at NBB, you would think that it would be hard to get to know that many cadets, but at the end of the two weeks, they have all become one family.

“I felt like, by the end of National Blue Beret, all of my fellow berets and I became a close knit family. It was great working with such an awesome group of people”, said Capt. Nicole Schneider. 1st Lt. Sullivan Busch echoed the sentiment, “At NBB, you don’t make friends with the people in your flight, you make family. After graduating the two week activity, I found that I had twelve new brothers and sisters, and I didn’t want to leave them to go home.”



NBB's coveted blue beret with St. Alban's pin.



South Dakota Wing cadets at the 2014 NBB (L-R) Schneider, West, Dinell, Busch.



LEFT: Aircraft crowd the taxiway at AirVenture 2014.

NEW TOP 3 IN CAP

*By Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP
Wing PAO*

Civil Air Patrol has a new national commander – Major General Joseph Vazquez, who was sworn in on Friday, 15 August at the organization’s 2014 National Conference in Las Vegas. “It will be my privilege to lead the team of national staff, wing and region commanders who make CAP simply the best nonprofit corporation in the country today,” he said minutes after taking the guidon as national commander in a time honored change of command ceremony. Gen. Vazquez, who previously served as CAP’s national vice commander for three years, succeeds Major General Charles Carr.

As CAP’s 23rd national commander, Gen. Vazquez will lead the organization’s 60,000 volunteers across the nation, in US territories and at military bases overseas in fulfilling its three congressionally chartered missions – emergency services, cadet programs and aerospace education.

Brigadier General Larry Myrick, a past commander of CAP’s Pacific Region, was sworn in as national vice commander during the same change of command ceremony as was Colonel Larry Ragland, the new national chief of staff.

Continued . . .

SDWG Wins North Central Region Search and Rescue Missions Award

*By Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP
Wing PAO*

South Dakota’s Civil Air Patrol Wing was notified on 27 July by CAP’s National Headquarters that it was selected to receive the North Central Region’s Search and Rescue Missions Award. This marks the second time in three years that South Dakota Wing has received this high honor. North Central Region commander, Col. Robert Todd, stated that the award is well merited as the South Dakota Wing has been both aggressive and innovative in finding new missions for our aircraft and personnel. Despite its small size the South Dakota Wing ranks 10th in the nation (each state is a Wing) in aircraft utilization.


In addition, the South Dakota Wing received the rarely awarded grade of “Highly Successful” in its U.S. Air Force graded operational evaluation in May of this year. Finally, Col. Todd noted that the South Dakota Wing has been a good steward in managing its portion of the U.S. Air Force training funds assigned to them by the North Central Region and by National Headquarters.

The NCR Search and Rescue Missions Award was presented to South Dakota Wing Commander



Col. Seten holds the NCR SAR Missions Award. He is flanked on the left by former CAP National Commander Major General Charles Carr and on the right by new CAP National Commander Major General Joseph Vazquez.

Col. John Seten at CAP’s National Conference held in Las Vegas on 14-16 August 2014.

CAP’s North Central Region consists of the Wings in North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa, Minnesota, and Missouri. 



BIOGRAPHY

Major General Joseph R. Vazquez

Joseph R. "Joe" Vazquez is the National Commander of Civil Air Patrol. His primary duty is leading CAP's 80,000 volunteers in fulfillment of the nonprofit organization's three congressionally chartered missions of Emergency Services, Cadet Programs and Aerospace Education, as well as its steadily increasing role in America's Homeland Security.

As CAP's National Commander, he serves as a Major General (two-star), the highest ranking CAP Officer. He also serves as CAP's Chief Executive Officer and as an Advisor to the CAP Board of Governors (BoG), the organization's governing body. In addition, he leads the CAP Command Council (CCC), whose members serve as his advisors, and the CAP Senior Advisory Group (CSAG).

Maj Gen Vazquez was appointed to a three-year term as National Commander/CEO on April 4, 2014. As part of CAP's new governance structure, his selection was made by the BoG – for the first time in the organization's 73-year history. He assumed command Aug. 15, 2014, at CAP's 2014 National Conference.



Before his selection as National Commander/CEO, Maj Gen Vazquez served as National Vice Commander, assuming command on Aug. 18, 2011. Previously, he commanded the more than 7,000 members of CAP's Middle East Region – a seven-state area on the East Coast from Delaware to South Carolina. He was appointed Middle East Region Commander in 2008. He served as CAP's National Operations Advisor prior to that appointment, during which time he restructured CAP's core flying regulation, CAPR 60-1.

Maj Gen Vazquez joined as a Georgia Wing cadet in 1975 and rose to the rank of Cadet Major before transitioning to the senior member program in 1978. He qualified as a CAP Ground Team Leader while still a cadet, and as a senior member became a Mission Pilot in 1986. He subsequently qualified as a Flight Instructor and Check Pilot, and in 1992 became an Incident Commander, the highest search and rescue rating in CAP. He is currently a qualified Check Pilot Examiner in airplanes and gliders, with 3,525 flying hours and 490 glider flights.

Starting in 1989, Maj Gen Vazquez served in increasing areas of responsibility with CAP. He was appointed as Commander of Group 2 within South Carolina Wing in 1989, and from 1990 to 1992 was Commander of the Wicomico Composite Squadron in Salisbury, Maryland. He was appointed Group 1 Commander with Maryland Wing in 1993 and Group 4 commander with Virginia Wing in 1994. He held multiple Wing staff assignments in Virginia and was appointed Virginia Wing Vice Commander in 1997 and Wing Commander in 2001. In 2003, he became Vice Commander of CAP's Middle East Region and later the National Operations Advisor in 2007.

A Savannah, Georgia, native and a graduate of Warner Robins High School, Maj Gen Vazquez attended the University of Georgia, earning a Bachelor of Science degree with majors in psychology and computer science. He began his career as a software engineer with E.I. DuPont at the Savannah River Plant in Aiken, South Carolina. He transferred to Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC) in 1997 and retired in 2010 as an Operations Manager with CSC's North American Service Restoration Team. He is also a 32nd degree Mason and past master of Temple Lodge #9, Virginia Ancient Free & Accepted Masons.

A resident of Henrico, Virginia, Maj Gen Vazquez is married to another CAP member, Lt Col Leslie Vazquez, who most recently served as the organization's National Standardization/Evaluation Advisor.



BIOGRAPHY

Brigadier General Larry F. Myrick

Larry F. Myrick is the National Vice Commander of Civil Air Patrol. His primary duty is to assist CAP National Commander and CEO Major General Joseph R. Vazquez in leading CAP's 60,000 volunteers in fulfillment of the nonprofit organization's three congressionally chartered missions of Emergency Services, Cadet Programs and Aerospace Education, as well as its steadily increasing role in America's Homeland Security.

As CAP's National Vice Commander, Myrick serves as a Brigadier General (one-star). He is also a member of the CAP Command Council (CCC), which serves as advisors to the national commander, and the CAP Senior Advisory Group (CSAG).

Brig Gen Myrick was named National Vice Commander on June 23, 2014, and assumed command Aug. 15 at CAP's 2014 National Conference. As part of CAP's new governance structure that took effect October 2012, Maj Gen Vazquez selected Brig Gen Myrick as National Vice Commander, and he was confirmed by CAP's



Board of Governors. The selection marked the first time in CAP's 73-year history that the organization's National Commander/CEO selected the Vice Commander.

Before his selection as National Vice Commander, Brig Gen Myrick served as an advisor to National Commander/CEO Maj Gen Charles L. Carr, Jr., Maj Gen Vazquez's predecessor. As an advisor to Maj Gen Carr since August 2013, Brig Gen Myrick was responsible for special projects and duties as determined by the Commander.

A resident of San Luis Obispo, California, Col Myrick previously commanded at CAP's squadron, group, wing and region levels. He was Commander of Bob Beevers Composite Squadron 103 from 1989 to 1993 and he was appointed as Commander Group 11 from 1993 to 1998. He was the California Wing Vice Commander for a short three months in 1999 until he was appointed California Wing Commander from 1999 to 2003. Brig Gen Myrick was the Pacific Region Vice Commander from 2005 to 2009 except for a three-month stint as temporary California Wing Commander in 2007 and Pacific Region Commander from 2009 to 2013.

Active in CAP since he joined in 1987, Brig Gen Myrick is a rated instrument pilot and was operationally qualified as an Incident Commander and Master Observer. He has participated in over 100 emergency services missions.

He has been on the teaching staffs of the Pacific Region Staff College since 2000 and the National Staff College since 2005, where he gives presentations on leadership and the changing environment of today's CAP. He is also an adjunct professor at his alma mater, California Polytechnic State University. Brig Gen Myrick earned a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering technology. He now teaches a senior-level mechanical engineering design course.

Brig Gen Myrick currently works for the firm Integrated Commissioning & Energy (owned by Peggy Myrick), where he consults with architects and engineering firms on the design of mechanical systems and commissioning of commercial buildings. In January 2014, he sold his consulting mechanical engineering business, which he owned for 25 years.

His wife, Lt Col Peggy Myrick, is also a CAP member.



BIOGRAPHY

Colonel Larry J. Ragland

Colonel Larry J. Ragland of Sanford, North Carolina, is Executive Officer for Civil Air Patrol National Commander and CEO Maj. Gen. Joseph R. Vazquez.

Appointed to head the national staff in June 2014, Col Ragland officially became Executive Officer on Aug. 15 when Maj Gen Vazquez assumed command.

Col Ragland, a 38-year member of CAP, previously served as Middle East Region Commander. He was appointed Middle East Region Commander on November 4, 2011, after serving as Interim Region Commander for four months. He was the Region Vice Commander from September 2009 to August 2011, serving under Vazquez when he was the Middle East Commander. Prior to that, he served a four-year term as North Carolina Wing Commander (2005 – 2008).

Col Ragland's service to Civil Air Patrol began in 1976 and has included Deputy Squadron Commander for Seniors, Squadron Commander, Deputy Group Commander, Group Commander, and North Carolina Wing Vice Commander.

He is an active Mission Pilot with 2,100 flying hours, Incident Commander, and qualified Air Branch Director with the North Carolina Wing. He is also a qualified Cadet Orientation Pilot.

When not performing CAP duty assignments, Col Ragland practices Landscape Architecture in Raleigh, North Carolina. His award-winning design firm does a wide range of site design projects, including schools, parks, subdivisions, housing projects, and shopping centers. The Governor of North Carolina appointed him to the state's Board of Registration for Landscape Architects for two four-year terms, and he has participated as an exam writer and exam grader for the National Landscape Architect Registration Exam (LARE). In 1996, he was the recipient of the North Carolina Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects President's Council Award for "significant and sustained contributions to the profession of Landscape Architecture" in his home state.

Col Ragland is married to Ethel A. Ragland and they have two children – a son, Evan Allen Ragland of Sanford and a daughter, Ginger Alicia Miller of Redondo Beach, CA. He is the proud grandfather of Elan and Cohen Miller.



South Dakota Wing Exhibit at State National Guard Museum

*By Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP, Wing PAO and
Maj. Todd Epp, CAP, Wing Historian*

The South Dakota Wing (SDWG) of the Civil Air Patrol opened an exhibit at the South Dakota National Guard (SDNG) Museum in Pierre on Friday, 8 August 2014. The joint SDWG/SDNG exhibit, which runs into October, celebrated the two organizations' assistance to each other in accomplishing their missions.


The exhibit featured current and former CAP uniforms, insignia, patches, awards and copies of the South Dakota Wing magazine. It also included current and past equipment such as an aircraft radio, a ground radio, a global positioning system and a pilot's kneeboard. There was a PowerPoint slideshow with photos of South Dakota Wing and South Dakota National Guard members and activities. All the items are identified with descriptions, with the history of the CAP, cooperation between the SDWG and the SDNG and other notable and interesting facts about the SDWG and SDNG on placards. The SDWG exhibit items are in two large cases, three mannequins, and two easels.



Ms. Sonja Johnson, Director of the S.D. National Guard Museum, poses in front of the museum.

Wing Historian Maj. Todd Epp spent a great deal of time and effort gathering and preparing materials and organizing the exhibit. The South Dakota wing owes a debt of gratitude to SDNG Museum Director Sonja Johnson, herself a sergeant in the South Dakota Army Guard, who made the exhibit possible through her enthusiasm, hard work and support.

Though it may not be on the usual tour of South Dakota's Capital City, the S.D. National Guard Museum just east of downtown Pierre is full of the stuff of South Dakota's military history. The museum features the history of the South Dakota Army Guard since its formation in 1862 and the South Dakota Air National Guard since its founding by Medal of Honor winner Joe Foss in 1946. The museum is free and is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Maj. Epp's next project will be creating a Civil Air Patrol/South Dakota Wing exhibit at the South Dakota Air and Space Museum at Ellsworth AFB in Rapid City. 



South Dakota Wing Historian Maj. Todd Epp and South Dakota National Guard director Ms. Sonja Johnson pose before the newly opened SDWG exhibit at the museum.

TORNADO DAMAGE SURVEY MISSIONS

By Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP, Wing PAO

Black Hills Tornado Damage Survey Mission

The Pennington County Office of Emergency Management requested South Dakota Wing conduct a time-sensitive mission to photograph damage in the wake of the tornado that touched down in the Silver City area of the Black Hills on 27 May. The severe storm system in the Black Hills also produced hail up to the size of golf balls near Keystone, Hill City, the Pactola Reservoir and Sheridan Lake. The mission objective was to provide photographs with embedded geographic coordinates of the extent of the tornado's damage path.



Black Hills tornado near Silver City.

Responding to the mission request, a SDWG Cessna-182T took off from the Rapid City Regional Airport with Maj. Craig Goodrich and Lt. Col. Gary Hewett; both highly experienced Mission Pilots, on board. Their survey mission lasted about 1.5 hours, during which they took nearly 100 high resolution geo-tagged photos that were hand delivered to the Pennington EOM for analysis.

Wessington Springs Tornado Damage Survey Mission

Photos used with permission of FEMA.

On 19 June, the South Dakota Office of Emergency Management and FEMA tasked the South Dakota Wing to fly a photographic survey mission over the path of the EF-2 tornado (127 mph winds) that struck Wessington Springs in Jerauld County on the 18th. Both organizations requested photos showing the entire town



Mission Observer Lt. Rob Hinkhouse and Mission Pilot Capt. Neil Schmidt enter coordinates in the aircraft's navigation system prior to takeoff.



Path of the tornado through Wessington Springs (yellow box added by Maj. Kipp).

to see the path of destruction and close-up photos of the damage.


A Cessna-182T from the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron was assigned the mission. The aircraft departed Sioux Falls Regional Airport in mid-afternoon for a sortie lasting about 2.5 hours. Special care and coordination had to be taken during the flight as South Dakota National Guard aircraft were also active in the area.

Wing Commander Col. Seten served as the SDWG point-of-contact for the mission. The CAP aircrew consisted of Capt. Neil Schmid (Mission Pilot), Maj. Todd Epp (Mission Scanner) and 1st Lt. Robert Hinkhouse (Mission Observer). The mis-



Close-up of the damage caused by the Wessington Springs tornado.

sion photos were uploaded for federal and state emergency

management officials' analysis and assessment. 

Wing Changes of Command and Staff Appointments

By Col. John Seten, CAP, Wing Commander, and Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP, Wing PAO

2014 has been a year of changes for South Dakota Wing. As is typical for an organization such as ours there are what is in effect term limits on command positions. This is to provide opportunities for junior Wing officers to rise through the various command positions as they gain experience and grow in rank and seniority. The South Dakota Wing currently has six squadrons. Three of these squadrons changed commanders in 2014. In addition, in our mobile society there is a lot of coming and going in any given year. As a result some of the Wing Staff positions have been reassigned and some new officers appointed.

Changes In Squadron Command

•On 4 March, the then First Lieutenant (now Captain) Shannon Hofer assumed the top spot in the Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings. He succeeds Capt. Travis Rup who successfully led the squadron for nearly two years before moving out of the area. Capt. Hofer is an amazing officer. In addition to his duties as the commander he also serves as the unit's Aerospace Education Officer, IT Officer, Logistics, Maintenance, Supply, Transportation and Safety Officer. He is also the Wing Director of Information Technology. This multi-talented administrator has even found the time to mentor the squadron's award winning cyber-security team that has so successfully competed in the annual national CyberPatriot computer security competitions. There is no doubt the Big Sioux Composite Squadron will continue to grow and prosper under Capt. Hofer's leadership.



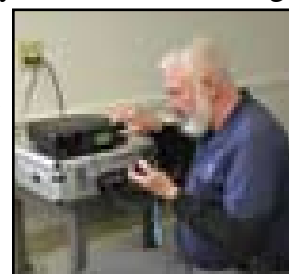
Capt. Shannon Hofer, the new commander of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings.

•On 3 April, First Lieutenant Kris Bierwirth became the new commander of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron in Custer. She assumed the position from the then Capt. (now Maj.) Sharon Moad who we all know has led the squadron with dedication and distinction. In addition to her duties as the commander this talented officer also serves as the unit's Assistant Activities Officer, Administrative Officer, Alerting Officer, Personnel Officer, Public Affairs Officer and Assistant Information Technologies Officer. As such Kris brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to her new position. I'm confident that she will do a great job as the new squadron commander.



Outgoing squadron commander, Capt. (now Maj.) Sharon Moad (L), presents the squadron guidon to new squadron commander Lt. Kris Bierwirth (R).

•On 28 June, over 30 CAP members and family attended the "Change of Command Party" where the then Capt. (now Maj.) David Small, Jr. passed the reigns of leadership of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron in Spearfish to Capt. William Collister. Members from Crazy Horse Composite Squadron, Rushmore Composite Squadron, Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron and the Air Force Reserve were present. The squadron in Spearfish is one of our most active and participates in a broad variety of activities. It has received several well-deserved awards in the past four few years under Maj. Small. I expect many more good things to come in the future for the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron.



Capt. Bill Collister, new commander of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, trains on an HF radio.

Wing Staff Appointments

In addition to the changes in squadron command I am also pleased to report that for the year to date the following appointments to the Wing Staff have been made.

Col. Mike Beason – Wing Inspector General; Capt. Jerry Gabert - Wing Director of Communications
Capt. Collister - Wing Assistant Director of Communications; Capt. Sylvia Small - Wing Finance Officer;
Lt. David Stockinger – Wing Assistant Public Affairs Officer